

On January 27, 2014 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:33 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Willard D. Cromley, Bernard F. Pettit and Kelly J. Spletzer
Region II: Dawn R. Heine and Todd R. Wolf
Region III: Mark P. Dehnert and Thomas J. DiBello
Presiding Officer: Joseph P. Ciresi
Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin
Business Manager: Timothy Anspach
Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.
Student Rep.: Taylor M. Auman

The following Board Members were absent:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Fern announced that the school board is looking for a dedicated member of the community from Region II to fill the remaining two years of Julie Mullin's term. Mrs. Mullin resigned her position as School Director in order to take on the role of Upper Providence Tax Collector. Serving on the School Board is a great opportunity for residents to get involved and have a say in the education of our students. Any interested Region II district resident who is at least 18-years-old can submit a letter of interest via e-mail, U.S. Mail or hand-delivery to the administration building located at 857 South Lewis Road in Royersford. Applications should be addressed to the care of Diane Fern. E-mailed applications can be sent to dfern@spring-ford.net. All applications must be submitted by 4:00 PM on January 31, 2014. The Board will be holding a special board meeting on February 5th to interview applicants and vote on a new board member from Region II. Mrs. Fern advised everyone that due to the numerous snow days the District has experienced in recent weeks, changes have been made to the calendar. There were three snow days written into the calendar for the 2013-14 school year and thus far we have used four. The District had selected several make-up days in order to accommodate any additional unforeseen snow days beyond the original 3. Friday, February 14th will be the first make-up day for students and staff. Additional information on the school calendar can be found on the district website at www.spring-ford.net

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Ciresi requested that Item B under Other Business be moved up on the agenda.

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Item B, Other Business, and Mrs. Heine seconded it. Motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Ciresi thanked Mrs. Mullin and said that all of the Board is opposed to her resigning by understand that she must due to her new position as the Upper Providence Tax Collector. Mr. Ciresi said that it has been an honor to have served and worked with her over the past 4 years. He stated that she has really put a lot of time into the district on for the community, the kids and the betterment of Spring-Ford. Mr. Ciresi thanked her on behalf of the Board and stated that they look forward to working with her over the next number of years in her new capacity.

Mr. DiBello echoed Mr. Ciresi's sentiments and stated that Mrs. Mullin will be a Board Member that is missed wholeheartedly. He stated that she has been a tremendous asset for the kids and the community and it would be tough to list everything in one meeting as the list is endless. Mr. DiBello highlighted all Mrs. Mullin brought to the Policy Committee especially the fact that policies were not just reviewed and adjusted without the input of those individuals directly impacted or influenced by the policy. He stated that it will be tough getting used to her not being here.

Mr. Pettit thanked Mrs. Mullin for her past 6 years on the Board and stated that no one has worked harder. He stated that she helped turn the Curriculum Committee around along with the help of Dr. Floyd. Mr. Pettit stated that she has hard shoes to fill.

Mrs. Heine stated that it has been a pleasure not only to sit next to Mrs. Mullin at the Board Meetings but also to work with her on the committees. She thanked her for her patience Mrs. Heine added that she cannot imagine the adjustment Mrs. Mullin will be making and she as well as the entire Board would hope to see her regularly whether it is at Committee Meetings or Board Meetings.

Dr. Goodin recognized Mrs. Mullin for her service to the community and on the School Board. Mrs. Mullin was presented with flowers. Everyone was invited to enjoy some cake in recognition of Mrs. Mullin and her service. Dr. Goodin again thanked Mrs. Mullin for her service and what she has accomplished for the district.

Mrs. Mullin said it was with mixed emotions that she gave up this seat but with her position as the tax collector she cannot keep her seat on the Board. Mrs. Mullin stated that she served 6 years on the Board and she felt it was time to do something new. She commented that her service on the Board was a very rewarding time and she will miss it. She added that she met people and became friends with people that she normally would not have had the opportunity to meet if it was not for this position. Mrs. Mullin said she cannot take credit for the policy stuff as that was mainly Dr. Roche and the curriculum stuff was mainly Dr. Floyd. Mrs. Mullin stated that she is proud to say that she was part of the team that brought these two administrators on board and Dr. Goodin.

B. The Board accepted the resignation of **Julie A. Mullin** from the Spring-Ford Area Board of School Directors. Mrs. Mullin was elected as the Upper Providence Tax Collector and under Public School Code – Section 322 she must resign as it is prohibited for tax collectors to simultaneously hold the office of school director.

The Board took a recess to have cake in honor of Mrs. Mullin. The meeting reconvened at 7:49 pm

Mrs. Mary Pat Long introduced herself as the Principal of Brooke Elementary and also introduced students with her this evening and the staff accompanying her as well. She reported that tonight they will be presenting on Brooke's Foundations Program. Mrs. Long commented that unfortunately Madilyn Cawley would have been here if the snow had not prevented the meeting from taking place last week but they wanted to give her recognition and the efforts she put into preparing for the presentation.

Mrs. Long stated that Dr. Nepps had come up with the idea of recording a series of videos so that families explaining the Foundations Program so that new families coming into Brooke would be able to view the video and have an understanding of the program. A video providing an overview of the program was shown. Dr. Nepps explained in the video that the Foundations Program is used in kindergarten, first and second grade and covers 5 critical reading instruction including phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

Mrs. Young stated that tonight they are going to demonstrate a letter sound drill. She stated that in class a student is chosen to lead the class and they always practice drills on vowel sounds and any new and challenging sounds. The audience was asked to participate by echoing the sounds of the drill leader. Abigail Sabin led the demonstration on short vowel sounds and Jack Redcay led the one for consonant sounds. Next the Board Members were given letter boards to use as part of their participation in drills. Ethan Uba led the audience in echo find letters activity and Teagan O'Dea led everyone in the echo find words activity.

Mrs. Long stated that this was just a small sampling of the activities and if anyone wanted more information they could check Dr. Nepps website which can be found off of the Brooke Elementary website.

The students all expressed what they like best about the Foundations Program. Nick Flores stated that he likes building with the letter tiles. Jack Redcay said he likes writing on the slates. Teagan O'Dea commented that she likes being the leader and pointing to the sounds.

Dr. Goodin thanked the students and commented that they did a wonderful job with their presentation this evening.

A. **Mary Pat Long**, Principal, **Dr. Marilyn Nepps**, Reading Specialist, **Nancy Daly**, **Marguerite Detwiler**, and **Amanda Young**, Teachers, **Madilyn Cawley**, **Nick Flores**, **Teagan O'Dea**, **Jack Redcay**, **Abigail Sabin** and **Ethan Uba**, Students, to present on Brooke Elementary's Foundations Program.

Dr. Goodin recognized all of the Board Members in honor of January being Board Recognition Month. He stated that one definition of public service is one who labors for the public good. Dr. Goodin gave special recognition to Mr. Ciresi for his 8 years of service on the Spring-Ford Area School Board and Mr. Pettit for his 12 years of service. Dr. Goodin also recognized Mrs. Mullin for her time on the School Board. Dr. Goodin thanked all of the Board Members for their public service and all they do for the students,

the community and what they do to make Spring-Ford the educational provider of choice for our community.

- 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.

Mr. Anspach stated that tonight they are here to present the Proposed Preliminary Budget for the 2014-2015 school year. He reported that the budget is in the early stages and will go through many changes through its review at the Finance Committee Meetings and will not be approved until June when it is finalized. The purpose of presenting it tonight is to allow 20 days for public inspection. Mr. Anspach reviewed the allowable exceptions which Spring-Ford is permitted to apply for.

Mr. Francella presented information showing a comparison of the 2013-14 school year budget to the 2014-2015 budget. He spoke about the changes in expenses. Mr. Francella pointed out the expense for salaries showed zero for right now as teacher negotiations are still in process. Mr. Francella next discussed the revenue changes. He reviewed the budget challenges and went over the important dates under Act 1 Guidelines for the budget timeline.

Mr. Ciresi stated that it is important from the public's perspective to understand that some of these costs we have no control over as it comes down to us from the state and we cannot do anything about that. Mr. Ciresi spoke about charter schools saying the district spends about \$2 million a year which is a completely unfunded mandate and we have no control over what kids learn and we do not sit on any board there like we do at the MCIU and the Western Center. Mr. Ciresi stated that he feels if we are going to fund the charter schools then we should have a say over what goes on. Mr. Ciresi reported that PSERS is another bind that we cannot get out of right now. He also stated that employee health care costs are going up all over the country. Mr. Ciresi commented that what really stands out is that the increase in curriculum is only \$250,000 but yet there is a \$6 million increase to the budget. He asked everyone to imagine if some of this money did not have to go where it is going and it could be put towards education which is why we are all here. Mr. Ciresi said he really has to shake his head over how much the district must pay into mandates that we have no right to say anything on.

Mr. DiBello stated that that what was proposed was the preliminary budget that we are required to put forth to the state under their guidelines. He reiterated that when you look at the increase in expenses you have a \$3.8 million increase associated to health care, PSERS and benefits for the staff. Mr. DiBello stated that the increase in these costs are not the fault of the staff but the downside is that it has a tremendous impact to the community. Mr. DiBello spoke about the zero percent increase in salaries due to negotiations still going on but added that if there is an increase then the budget will go up. He reported that roughly every \$850,000 increase is about a 1% tax increase to the community. While there is some revenue to offset that increase we need to figure out what areas to help reduce spending. Mr. DiBello stated that there is a huge election this with regards to the Governor race and there is already a projected over one billion dollar shortfall in the state budget. He added that the state has sworn off any increase in taxes to the community at the state level which means they will force local school districts to find money to pay for these exorbitant increases. Mr. DiBello stated that the challenge to the district will be to figure out where the money will come from.

Mr. Pettit stated that the dedicated pensions from the state are way out of hand. He urged the public to contact the state representatives and ask that they do something about this and change the dedicated pensions into a 401K system. He commented that he feels this is the only way the state and the districts are going to stop being bled.

- C. **Mr. Timothy Anspach**, Business Manager, and **Mr. David Francella**, Assistant Business Manager, to present the 2014-2015 Proposed Preliminary Budget for the Spring-Ford Area School District.

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-D and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved the October 28, 2013 Board Meeting minutes.
- B. The Board approved the November 18, 2013 Work Session minutes.
- C. The Board approved the November 25, 2013 Board Meeting minutes.
- D. The Board approved the December 7, 2013 Board Reorganization Meeting minutes.

IV. **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Student Rep. Report Taylor M. Auman

Taylor announced that with the snow days this past week, there are a few things that the public should be aware of. First, February 14th is now a regular day for every-one, this will compensate for time lost as a result of the snow closings. Also, the marking period was scheduled to close on January 27th, but since two more snow days occurred, the marking period will be closing on January 29th, and subsequently, report card release dates are being pushed back as well. Taylor stated that as for other district news, at the high school, applications for the annual Mr. Spring-Ford event are due to Mrs. German, Mrs. Blackledge, or Mrs. Ritter by the 5th of February. Also the football team is looking for 3 students to handle their videography and photography needs throughout the season. Midterm exam testing has begun, and he reiterated that the next two days will be an open campus to all students and once you are done testing you will be permitted to leave. Taylor stated that with regards to high school; all yearbooks, under the \$45.00 price tag, are to be ordered by this Friday the 24th. He commented that in district-wide news, the first annual 5K run/walk and kid fun run is being held on April 11th and applications are due by the 28th of March. He stated that this is a fantastic cause, and the money raised will be used to benefit the entire community and school district. He encouraged everyone to come out and have a good time by helping the school district. Taylor next reported that as per the request of Mr. Ciresi a few months back, he took the liberty of spreading the word about the possibility of a coffee shop being put into the media center of the 10/12 building. Not surprisingly, nearly every student loved the idea and offered many opinions on what should be served, how it should be set up, etc. Even the teachers he spoke with were enthralled with the idea and they think it would be a positive addition to the high school. Taylor stated that some of the concerns from a few conscientious students were, where will the money come from and how soon will it be implemented. He reported that those questions obviously were unanswerable currently; however, they would definitely be concerns down the road. Taylor stated that he thinks that this proposed idea will continue to be well-received by the entire student body and faculty, and he urged the Board

to keep working on making this a reality. Taylor commented that he would like to note that with regards to the new policies on technology usage and the Wi-Fi network in the high school, the entire student body is extremely grateful that they are being encouraged to use their technology in order to enhance their experience in the classroom. Taylor stated that he believes we should foster this new approach towards learning and continue down this novel path.

Policy

Dawn Heine

2nd Mon. 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Heine reported that the Policy Committee met on January 13th reviewed and made changes the attendance policy which is on the agenda as a first reading. She added that the changes made to it were so that it is more in line with the handbooks. The committee also made changes to the community volunteer policy which reflect the level of contact between volunteers and students and the clearances needed. She stated that Dr. Roche did a fabulous job classifying the two categories for volunteers and they are being identified as limited contact and substantial contact. The committee is moving forward with getting this policy cleaned up and on the agenda as a first reading. She reported that they continue to look at the student records policy and Dr. Roche is working with the district's legal counsel to make sure we are in compliance with this policy. PSBA put out a list of recommended policy revisions for this school year and Mrs. Heine stated that they were very pleased to find out in the Policy Committee meeting that we were either on target or ahead of the game with policies that need revision. The committee is also keeping their ears open to new legislations and rulings that could ultimately impact the committee.

Curriculum/Technology

Dawn Heine

1st Tues. 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Heine reported that the Curriculum/Technology Committee met on January 15th and on the technology side of thing they reviewed the budget which is a 10 year planning budget, discussed changes and why they were made. The surveillance camera contract is on the agenda tonight. Mrs. Heine reported that we will be participating in a national joint power alliance for this project which will assure competitive pricing for both the labor and materials. The committee also reviewed the leasing agreements with EPlus Technology which is to cover a scheduled refresh that will take place this spring and summer. Mrs. Heine reported that on the curriculum side they talked about the student learning objectives which our district is a pilot for. The program will measure, identify and document the effectiveness of teachers based on student achievement on content standards. Mrs. Heine stated that each teacher will have student learning objectives, some of which have already been created and there has been collaboration going on within the various departments. The committee also discussed the PA Core Standards and we are actually still ahead of the game on this because there was such a large push back in 2012 to get the core standards completed. Mrs. Heine added that if they are adopted by the state we will have some additional work to do but as of now we are ahead of the game. The committee discussed a new course for the 8th grade Science Program that is going to potentially be a warm up class for the High School STEM Program. Mrs. Heine reported that the curriculum budget was reviewed and Dr. Floyd is making sure that all curriculum and instruction items are being captured under his budget as opposed to them being attributed to several different areas. This will enable us to get an actual picture of his budget.

Extracurricular

Will Cromley

2nd Mon. 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Cromley reported that the Extracurricular Committee met on January 13th and viewed a presentation by Neil Rutter, the chair, for the Spring-Ford Area Senior High School Rampage newspaper group. Mr. Cromley stated that there are subscriptions sold

for the newspaper which has 5 sections to it. He added that each department has an editor who is responsible for content and design. Three students who were present for the committee meeting shared a short presentation on their duties and responsibilities for their current roles in the club. Mr. McDaniel presented an update on the fall sports program as far as the accomplishments and participation on both the boys' and girls' teams which is at roughly 850 students. Mrs. Ruppert was present and spoke about a new high school student opportunity, the Ace Mentoring Program. Mrs. Ruppert and Dr. Roche will continue to look at the program to see if it is meaningful. There was also a follow-up discussion on online ticket sales for athletics, theater and special events. This topic was placed on the agenda for the Leadership Team which will take place on January 29th. Dr. Roche will report back to the Extracurricular Committee on the interest level from the Leadership Team at the next meeting. There was also a review of the 7-12th grade student survey results for fall athletics which indicated a 79% overall participation in the survey. This survey gives students the opportunity to go back and report on their experiences with the sports that they just completed participating in. Mr. Cromley added that he neglected to mention that the cost for the online ticket sales device starts at roughly \$5,000. Mr. Cromley stated that he wanted to publicly announce that the Girl's High School Basketball Team funded their entire trip to the Bahamas Classic by themselves. No district funds were used for this activity.

Mr. Dehnert stated that the Ace Program is a great opportunity for students and at no cost to the district and he asked what is being done to make this happen as soon as possible. Dr. Roche responded that he met with Mrs. Ruppert as there were some questions regarding insurance, the Ace Corporation and where the mentors were coming from. Dr. Roche stated that the information will be brought back to the committee at the next meeting and we will hopefully be able to get it started as soon as possible. Mr. Dehnert he would like to see it started this year as it is a great program and at no cost to the district.

Finance

Tom DiBello

2nd Tues. 7:00 p.m.

Mr. DiBello reported that the Finance Committee met on January 14th and reviewed the monthly executive reports and from an overall expenditure standpoint we are staying within the budget. The committee looked at the per capita costs to see if they could be eliminated and based on the analysis the revenue that is generated is not something we can do away with nor can we pass it on to a subset of taxpayers. The majority of the committee's time was spent on reviewing the preliminary budget and trying to figure out ways to reduce the impact on the community as much as possible. Mr. DiBello reported that with the change in tax collectors for Upper Providence Township they are experiencing some issues related to the reconciliation of taxes collected which are attributed to the former collector and not the new tax collector. The former tax collector is responsible for everything up to December 2013 and the new tax collector is responsible for everything from January 2014 on. This may eventually have to be turned over to the solicitor for resolution.

Mark Fitzgerald stated that there have been some preliminary discussions with his office and they contacted her bond on this issue and they are working through that at this point and as issues present themselves.

MCIU

Tom DiBello

4th Weds. 7:45 p.m.

No report as the meeting was cancelled due to the weather.

Personnel Bernard Pettit (As Needed)

Mr. Pettit reported that the Personnel Committee met and discussions are continuing. He stated that hopefully they will have something to report next month.

Property Joseph Cirese 2nd Tues. 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Cirese reported that the Property Committee met on January 14th and discussed looking at having a feasibility study done. Conversation continued on the Bechtel Road property. The committee also discussed purchasing a vehicle for security personnel and this will be placed on agenda next month for consideration. The 9th Grade Center's gym ceiling needs some work done and that will be going out to bid. Mr. Cirese commented that there was some extensive conversation on the fitness room at the 10-12 Grade Center which is too small for the population we have but we do not have many options so a lot more conversation on this needs to take place on this. Mr. Cirese said that as Taylor brought up tonight there was discussion on the High School Café and the committee has asked for a full report to come back to them on the costs, how it will be done, how it will be maintained and the best way to implement that. Mr. Cirese stated there is a motion for card reader systems for the press boxes at the football stadium and baseball stadium on the agenda this evening so that we know who has access to these areas and who comes in and out of them especially since there have been a couple break-ins. Mr. Cirese reported that the committee discussed a location to put up a valedictorian and salutatorian wall in the auditorium or gym area. There was discussion on an art wall to be put into the high school. There was also conversation on giving the band an opportunity somewhere in the building to display all of their achievements for the public to be able to view.

PSBA Liaison Kelly J. Spletzer

Mrs. Spletzer reported that she just received her introduction letter along with an invitation for their spring meeting which she does plan on attending.

WMCTC Cirese, Cromley, Heine 1st Mon. 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Cirese reported that the WMCTC met for their reorganization meeting and there is not much to report on that. Mrs. Heine interrupted him and said yes there is and that Mr. Cirese had been elected as the JOC President. Mr. Cirese said the JOC Board looks forward to moving the JOC in a different direction. He stated that they have seen a huge improvement in population thanks to a push from the board, the administration and all of our building principals at the 8th and 9th grade level.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin reported that we have missed 4 days so far due to bad weather. There were 3 days built into the end of the school year calendar and those days have been used. In addition there were additional emergency days built into the calendar to be used on an as-needed basis. Last Wednesday was our 4th snow day so the first emergency make-up day will be February 14th. Dr. Goodin stated that February 14th was originally slated to be an in-service with K-6 conferences being held. Dr. Goodin advised parents that individual conferences can still be scheduled by teachers on an as-needed basis. Dr. Goodin informed everyone that if another day of school is missed then the next make-up day will be February 17th. Dr. Goodin listed the other remaining emergency make-days that could be used so that the end of the school year and graduation could be set. Dr. Goodin reported that on January 30th and 31st the district will host the 3rd annual Board Back to School Day. He explained that this is an opportunity for the Board to visit classrooms and experience first-hand what our students experience every day. Dr. Goodin thanked the teachers who volunteered to host a visitor and the Board Members who agreed to come in

and see what is going on first-hand in our schools. Dr. Goodin reported that on Friday, April 11th the Educational Foundation will host the first annual 5K run/walk and kid fun run. Registration information can be found on the district's website. Proceeds will benefit the annual Senior Impact Awards Program. Dr. Goodin urged everyone to come out and witness him outrunning Dr. Roche who does not stand a chance against his speed and endurance. Dr. Goodin said sponsorship opportunities for this event are available and information on this can also be found on the website. Dr. Roche stated that he would be happy to accept the challenge and would like to up the challenge and asked if Dr. Goodin would be willing to race against his 6 year old son. Dr. Roche said he believes that his son could take Dr. Goodin in the 5K. Dr. Roche stated that he personally will try to run with his son but will be busy with organizing the event. The following wager was made; if Dr. Goodin wins then he will publically shave Dr. Roche's head into a mohawk and if Dr. Roche's son wins then Dr. Goodin will spend an entire day working inside the art room display case at the high school.

Solicitors Report Mark Fitzgerald

Mr. Fitzgerald reported that on the agenda this evening is the approval of the settlement with regards to the Ravens Claw tax assessment appeal. Mr. Fitzgerald noted that the adjustments in the valuation of the property nets out to a refund to the taxpayer of \$160,000.

Mr. Ciresi reported that the Board met in an executive session to discuss personnel and property issues.

V. PERSONNEL

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-J and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

A. Resignations:

1. **Mohamed Abdel Halim Mansour**, Technical Assistant, 7th Grade Center. Effective: February 28, 2014.
2. **John Mascaro**, 8th Grade Baseball Coach, 8th Grade Center. Effective: January 7, 2014.
3. **Kerry L. Mihalcik**, Certified School Nurse, Brooke Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: February 7, 2014.
4. **Sheri Parsons**, Instructional Assistant, Brooke Elementary School. Effective: March 5, 2014.
5. **Melissa Salamone**, Food Services (3 hours/day), Senior High School – 9th Grade. Effective: January 10, 2014.
6. **Leigh-Ann Simms**, Instructional Assistant, Oaks Elementary School. Effective: January 2, 2014.
7. **Marci A. Thurston**, Food Services (3.5 hours/day), Senior High School – 9th Grade. Effective: January 17, 2014.

B. Leaves of Absence:

1. **Maren Bhalla**, College Career Coordinator, Senior High School; for an unpaid leave of absence per Board Policy. Effective: tentatively June 10, 2014 through June 30, 2014.
2. **Rachelle Hafer**, English Teacher, Senior High School; for child-rearing leave per the Professional Agreement. Effective: December 2, 2013 through the end of the third quarter of the 2013-2014 school year.
3. **Christina M. Moyer**, Art Teacher, Evans Elementary School; for unpaid leave per Board Policy. Effective: April 11, 2014 through the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

C. Temporary Professional Employees:

1. **Kelly A. Grant**, English Teacher, 8th Grade Center; replacing Maureen McCourt who retired. Salary has been set at B+18, Step 1, \$43,500.00, prorated, with benefits as per the Professional Agreement. Effective: January 27, 2014.
2. **Lindsay Shaner**, from Instructional Assistant to Part-time (.50) Special Education Teacher, Senior High School; replacing Sarah Pinard who had a change of Assignment. Salary has been set at B+18, Step 1, \$43,500.00, prorated, with benefits as per the Professional Agreement. Effective: January 27, 2014.

D. Support Staff Employees:

1. **Judy L. Denning**, Instructional Assistant, Brooke Elementary School; replacing Meghan A. Neiswender who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$16.36/hour with benefits as per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: January 2, 2014.
2. **Angela Santello**, School Nurse, 5/6th Grade Center; replacing Trisha Smith who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$27.25/hour per the Registered Nurses' Plan. Effective: February 11, 2014.

E. Changes of Status

1. **Michael J. Barber**, Head Custodian, 7th Grade Center; replacing Michael A. Walter who had a change of assignment. Compensation has been set at \$20.81/hour with benefits as per the Custodian Plan. Effective: December 23, 2013.
2. **Thomas A. Getzey**, Head Custodian, Evans Elementary School; replacing Donald W. Kollar who retired. Compensation has been set at \$20.56/hour with benefits as per the Custodian Plan. Effective: December 23, 2013.
3. **Michael A. Walter**, Head Custodian, 7th Grade Center; replacing Christopher F. Bachrach who retired. Compensation has been set at \$20.65/hour with benefits as per the Custodian Plan. Effective: December 23, 2013.

4. **Connie L. Iannetta** from full-time 10 month Secretary to full-time 12 month Administrative Assistant, District Office; replacing Joyce A. Curtis who is retiring. Compensation has been set at \$19.00 with benefits as per the Secretarial Plan. Effective: February 3, 2014.

F. Long Term Substitute Employee:

1. **Laura Tollefson**, English Teacher, Senior High School; replacing Rachelle Hafer who will be on an extended leave of absence. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 1, \$44,500.00, prorated with benefits. Effective: retroactive to September 6, 2013 through the end of the third quarter of the 2013-2014 school year.

G. Professional Staff Substitutes:

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|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. Jessica A. Burns | Certification: Grades PK- 4 |
| 2. Blair A. Houck | Certification: Health & Physical Education |
| 3. Carol Ann James | Certification: Elementary |
| 4. Lynda P. Phillips | Certification: Elementary K-6 |
| 5. Riley A. Pierson | Certification: English 7-12 |
| 6. Andrew Clinton Kuhn | Certification: Elementary, Mid-Level Math,
Mid-Level Science |
| 7. Victoria Masciandaro | Certification: Early Child N-3, Special Education |
| 8. Kelly L. Phiel | Certification: Elementary |

H. Support Staff Substitutes:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Jennifer M. Brown | Registered Nurse |
| 2. Helen Jeanne Dellaguardia | Registered Nurse |
| 3. Kaitlyn E. Machon | Registered Nurse |
| 4. Joan F. Russell | Instructional Assistant |
| 5. Nadezhda V. Santos | Instructional Assistant |
| 6. Rachael A. Schauder | Registered Nurse |
| 7. Sheridan K. Walt | Instructional Assistant |
| 8. Michelle L. Yost | Registered Nurse |
| 9. Melissa N. Bird | Instructional Assistant |
| 10. Patricia A. Cook | Instructional Assistant |

I. Personnel Information Item:

The individual listed below has completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as a temporary professional employee and is, therefore, approved for tenure status:

1. **Stacey Hoffman** Biology Teacher, Senior High School

J. The Board approved the attached extra-curricular contracts.

VI. FINANCE

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-Q and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Anspach commented that with regards to the audit, Item J, that this was due to the due diligence of the office staff. He stated that it is not an easy task and he wanted to make sure that the Board recognizes the hard work the Business Office has done. He

added that this does make the district look favorably with any kind of bond ratings and things of this nature as well.

Mr. Ciresi thanked Mr. Anspach and his staff for the hard work they do.

The motion passed 8-0.

A. 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.

B. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

November

Check No. 151971 – 152048	\$ 291,349.67
ACH 131400203 – 131400214	\$ 678.98

December

Check No. 152049 – 152253	\$1,372,723.88
ACH 131400215 – 131400253	\$ 4,161.53

January

Check No. 152254 – 152437	\$2,232,409.89
ACH 131400263 – 131400266	\$ 397.80

2. Athletic Fund

November

Check No. 306386 – 306437	\$ 29,945.58
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December

Check No. 306438 – 306562	\$ 18,576.60
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3. Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting

January

Check No. 152438 - 152460	\$ 197,768.13
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4. Board Checks held for approval

Check No. 152461 - 152487	\$ 37,139.13
ACH 131400267 - 131400315	\$ 48,866.93

C. 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. **OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Capital Projects Checks held for Board approval

December

Check No. 32837 – 32739	\$ 21,079.96
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January

Check No. 32840 – 32848	\$ 53,884.22
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- D. The Board approved the following **independent contracts**:
1. **Bill Orr, JRW Franklin Entertainment, LLC – Wayne, PA.** Provide four assemblies for students in grades 1 through 4 at Upper Providence Elementary School entitled “Ben Franklin Today, Learning Lunches and Full School Assembly”. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$600.00.
 2. **Benmor Enterprises – Bushkill, PA.** Provide an assembly for second grade students at Royersford Elementary School entitled “Dino Dig”. Funding will be paid by the Royersford Elementary PTO and shall not exceed \$525.00.
 3. **Benmor Enterprises – Bushkill, PA.** Provide an assembly and two dig workshops for third grade students at Brooke Elementary School entitled “Rocks, Minerals and Fossil Show”. Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$525.00.
 4. **Sarah Weeks – Nyack, NY.** Provide three presentations for students in grades K-4 at Evans Elementary School in conjunction with their Author Visit. Funding will be split between Evans Elementary Home & School Association and the Evans Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$2,500.00.
 5. **Sadecky’s Puppets – Clermont, FL.** Provide an assembly for students at Brooke Elementary School entitled “A Small Act of Kindness”. Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$750.00.
 6. **Dr. Curt Hinson, Playfit Education – Hockessin, DE.** Provide assemblies for all elementary grade levels K-6 entitled “Trouble Free”. These assemblies are follow-up visits to enforce what was learned at previous assemblies to ensure students are using learned skills. Funding will be paid from the 2013-2014 Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Grant and shall not exceed \$6,965.00.
 7. **Michele Decerio – Royersford, PA.** Provide six, one hour, morning assemblies at Upper Providence Elementary School entitled “Kid’s Fun Yoga”. Funding will be paid from the 2013-2014 Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Grant and shall not exceed \$600.00.
 8. **Trudy Houck, Brain Menders – Pottstown, PA.** Provide an assembly on the wearing of a helmet, bike safety, crossing the street buckling up and brain trauma prevention for students at Limerick Elementary School. There is no cost for this assembly.
 9. **Great Valley Nature Center – Devault, PA.** Provide an assembly for kindergarten students at Upper Providence Elementary School entitled “Eggs Traordinary Spring”. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$243.00.

10. **Kara Canale – Colleagueville, PA.** Provide psychological services for students who require initial psychoeducational evaluations and/or reevaluations. Services will be provided for twenty hours per week for twenty-three weeks at a rate of sixty-eight dollars an hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$31,280.00.
11. **Medley and Mesaric Therapy Associates – Fort Washington, PA.** Review records, consult, observe and make recommendations for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 10 hours at a rate of \$140 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$1,400.00.
12. **Ian Ash, Music Therapy Resources, LLC – Bryn Mawr, PA.** Provide music therapy to a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 42 hours at a rate of \$75.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,150.00.
13. **Lisa Kowalski, Connecting the Pieces – Norristown, PA.** Provide instructional reading and math services for a special needs student as part of the transition plan per the IEP. Services will be provided for 92 hours at a rate of \$50 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$4,600.00.
14. **Gateway Employment Resources – Limerick, PA.** Provide community based transition work assessment and job coaching for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 114.5 hours at a rate of \$55.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$6,297.50.
15. **PSA Healthcare – Reading, PA.** Provide Nursing Services for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year for a special needs student who is transported to an Approved Private School. Services will be provided for 7 hours per day at a rate of \$45.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$40,950.00.
16. **Austill's Rehabilitation – Royersford, PA.** Provide Occupational Therapy Services for a special needs student attending an Approved Private School. Services will be provided for 1 hour per week for 38 weeks. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$2,390.00.
17. **David Herman – Elkins Park, PA.** Conduct a Bi-lingual Psychological Evaluation for a student and provide a written evaluation. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$5,000.00.
18. **Dr. Jim Cianciulli – Jeffersonville, PA.** Continue to provide services as a School Psychologist to assist in completing the overflow of evaluations at the middle school level. A contract for Dr. Cianciulli was previously approved at the November 25, 2013 board meeting. Funding will not exceed the original approved contract amount.

19. **The Pathway School – Norristown, PA.** Provide an educational placement and services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 100 days at a rate of \$469.60 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$46,950.00.
- E. The Board approved **Resolution #2014-01** regarding the **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Administrative Services Budget** for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.
- F. The Board approved **Resolution #2014-02** regarding the **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Curriculum Instruction and Professional Development Services Budget** for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.
- G. The Board approved **Resolution #2014-03** regarding the **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Legislative Services and Grant Development Budget** for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.
- H. The Board approved **Resolution #2014-04** regarding the **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Technology and Information Services Budget** for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.
- I. The Board approved making public the 2014-2015 Proposed Preliminary Budget for the required 20 days and advertise the Board's intent to adopt the Preliminary Budget on February 18, 2014 and to submit referendum exceptions to the PA Department of Education before February 29, 2014.
- J. The Board approved the Independent Audit Report as submitted by Maillie LLP for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. The audit was without findings or material weaknesses. A display copy of this audit is available at the district office and can also be found on the district website.
- K. The Board authorized Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 120 Masters Drive in Limerick Township, identified as Tax Parcel No. 37-00-03700-00-7, setting the assessments of the property at \$1,603,760 for tax year 2009 (school tax year 2009-10), \$1,704,780 for tax year 2010 (school tax year 2010-11), \$1,467,460 for tax year 2011 (school tax year 2011-12), \$1,307,900 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$1,384,120 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14) and \$1,200,920 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15).
- L. Administration recommends approval of a confidential settlement agreement and release agreement, **#2014-01**, with the parents of a special needs student and the authorization of payment of \$42,500.00 in full satisfaction of claims and costs.
- M. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:
General Fund
- Money Market – November 2013/December 2013
 - PSDLAF – November 2013/December 2013
 - PSDMAX – November 2013/December 2013
 - Checking Account – November 2013/December 2013
 - PLGIT Account – November 2013/December 2013

- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule - November 2013/December 2013
- Payroll Account – November 2013/December 2013
- Tax Account – November 2013/December 2013

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – November 2013/December 2013
- 7th Grade Activity – November 2013/December 2013
- 8th Grade Activity – November 2013/December 2013
- High School Activity – November 2013/December 2013
- Athletic Account – November 2013/December 2013

Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – November 2013/December 2013

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – November 2013/December 2013
- Debt Service Fund – November 2013/December 2013
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) - November 2013/December 2013

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – November 2013/December 2013
- Cafeteria Checking Account – November 2013/December 2013
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – November 2013/December 2013
- Investment Account – November 2013/December 2013

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

NOVEMBER

Check No. 11511- 11534 \$ 200,081.52

DECEMBER

Check No. 11510, 11535-11555 \$ 210,390.45

O. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2013-2014 school year:

Limerick Township Exonerations	No. 133 – 148
Royersford Borough Exonerations	No. 104 – 116
Spring City Borough Exonerations	No. 023 – 027
Upper Providence Township Exonerations	No. 255 – 389

P. The Board approved the following **additions/deletions** to the per capita tax for the 2013-2014 school year:

Limerick Township Additions	No. 001 – 088
Limerick Township Deletions	No. 1054 – 1140
Royersford Borough Additions	No. 001 – 044
Royersford Borough Deletions	No. 393 – 527
Upper Providence Township Additions	No. 003 – 024
Upper Providence Township Deletions	No. 181 – 860

Q. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits**:
Permits No. 4706 – 4746

VII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he thinks we should consider not leasing these kinds of things anymore because we pay an interest charge on this. He commented that he thinks we should create a technology reserve and rather than make the payments to the leasing company we should pay ourselves back. Mr. Dehnert stated that this is costing us \$50,000 above the value of the equipment and we have no ownership rights in the equipment at the end of the lease. Mr. Dehnert asked if his assumption was wrong. Mr. Reynolds stated that this agreement was written up as a dollar buyout at the end of the lease so essentially we own the equipment by paying the small fee.

Mr. Dehnert commented again that we were paying \$50,000 for the lease and he asked Mr. Anspach how much interest we could earn on that money in our reserve accounts. Mr. Anspach stated that in today's environment you would be lucky to earn a little over 1%. Mr. Dehnert said he believes we should move towards creating the reserve and paying ourselves back and saving the \$50,000 over the course of four years.

Mr. Reynolds reported that the strategy for purchasing technology is to spread the funding of the technology over the lifetime of the equipment. He further stated that as far as the tool for purchasing the equipment does not matter on the technology side it is just that this allows the expenditure to be charged as an annual expense rather than one lump sum. Mr. Reynolds commented that we have a four year refresh strategy and the leasing basically helped us accomplish that but in order to purchase the same equipment this year we would have to come up with the full value of the equipment which is about \$700,000 added to the budget for next year.

Mr. Dehnert stated that we could take money out of the Capital Reserve Account and pay ourselves back and he asked Mr. Anspach if this was correct. Mr. Anspach replied that funds in the Capital Reserve could be earmarked for this purpose.

Mr. DiBello commented that this topic keeps coming up on whether we should rent or buy and one of the things that would have a cost if we purchased it is figuring out how to dispose of it at the end of the life of the equipment as you cannot just throw it into dumpsters. Mr. DiBello said he is in favor of looking down the road at how we can reduce the expenditure but on the flip side we have been very strategic over the last year or so with what technology we are bringing into the school and how the technology is utilized. Mr. DiBello stated that you cannot just say that you are going to save \$50,000 in finance charges and a lot of the money in the Capital Reserve Account has been earmarked for other projects. Mr. DiBello added that technology in the past did not have a reserve fund and we only just recently began to build that fund up with the hopes that maybe someday in the future that we would make decisions on what we should purchase versus what we should lease. Mr. DiBello stated that he does not necessarily disagree with Mr. Dehnert but he is going to disagree at this point because you cannot just say we are going to purchase it because we will save \$50,000 because that is not necessarily the case.

Mr. Dehnert stated that there are companies that buy used technology so after four years this equipment will have a value to companies that buy equipment at some nominal value. Mr. Dehnert commented that to dispose of the equipment would not cost us any money. Mr. DiBello stated we could do that anyway at the end because we have a buyout option of \$1.

Mr. Dehnert stated that we would save the \$50,000 if we went the route of lending the money basically to ourselves rather than paying the leasing company the fee.

Mr. Ciresi commented that this is an ongoing conversation that will go back to the Curriculum and Technology Committee. Mr. Ciresi stated that there is also the conversation on the Google and Chrome and how that affects the future on how many computers we buy versus what we do with the student body. Mr. Ciresi stated that he would like to see us get to the day where every student has a computer in their hands. Mr. Ciresi said that is an option that still sits out there and may be a cheaper option in the future to consider. Mr. Ciresi suggested that it go back to Curriculum and Technology.

Mr. Dehnert asked if this motion could be tabled and if there was any reason why the decision needed to be made tonight. Mr. Reynolds replied that a delay would cause some issues with the replacing of administrative computers that are part of this lease. Mr. Reynolds added that there are office administration staff that are part of the refresh. He commented that the replacement of the computers takes a lot of time and if we delay the decision we actually end up in a position where we will not have enough time to replace them because there are over 60 secretarial and administrative assistant computers to replace and each one can take about a day to do. Mr. Reynolds said that if we wait too much longer then we will not have enough time before the old computers have to be returned to the vendor.

Mr. Dehnert proposed changing the motion that we buy the equipment and move money from our Capital Reserve Account and pay ourselves back each year one quarter of whatever the proposed lease payment is. There was no second to Mr. Dehnert's motion.

The original motion passed 7-1 with Mr. Dehnert voting no.

- A. The Board approved of an agreement with ePlus Group, Inc. for the lease of laptop computers, desktop computers, monitors, thin clients, tablets and other peripheral equipment to be refreshed during the spring and summer of 2014. The total equipment value of approximately \$700,000.00 will be leased with four annual payments of approximately \$187,500.00 and will be funded by the 2014-2015 Technology Budget.

VIII. PROPERTY

Mr. DiBello made a motion for Items A-G and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Dehnert asked that Items D&G be separated.

Mr. DiBello and Mr. Pettit withdrew their motion and second.

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Items A-C and E-F, Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved seeking bids for the 8th Grade Center roof to be recoated as per the Preventive Maintenance Plan.
- B. The Board approved seeking bids and awarding to the lowest bidder the contract for district-wide filters for indoor air quality as per the Maintenance Plan. Funding will come from the General Maintenance Budget.

- C. The Board approved seeking bids and awarding to the lowest bidder the contract to replace carpet flooring with VCT tile on the lower level of Upper Providence Elementary School. This work will be completed during the summer months of 2014. Funding will come from the General Maintenance Budget.
- E. The Board approved seeking bids to obtain an architect to write the specifications to repair the ceiling in the main gym at the 9th Grade Center due to delamination. Funding will come from the General Maintenance Budget.
- F. The Board approved a contract with Black Forest Landscaping & Snowplowing, Inc., the lowest RFP and rejecting all other RFP's, for district-wide mowing. This contract will be year one of a three year option. The total cost for year 1 is \$1,225.00 per mowing based on twenty-three mowings per year on average. Funding will come from the General Maintenance Budget.

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Item D and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Dehnert said if we have an issue and do not know who has keys to the two press boxes why we do not just change the locks and keep track of the keys and save \$10,000 as the cost of a lock is far less than \$10,000. Mr. Dehnert stated that from what he understands some of the equipment in Ram Stadium is not even worth \$5,000. Mr. Dehnert commented that we are going to spend \$5,000 to control who can get in there when we can change the locks and keep track of the keys.

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

- D. The Board approved having card readers installed, to control access for security purposes, at the press box entrance doors of both Coach McNelly Stadium and Ram Stadium. Funding will come from the General Maintenance Budget and shall not exceed 10,000.00.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item G and Mrs. Heine seconded it.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he is against Item G because of the reasons he stated last time this was on the agenda that we do not have a strategy for overall security and before we spend money we should have that strategy, make a plan and spend money accordingly.

Mr. Reynolds reminded the Board that this project is to repair a system that is not functioning properly. This system is a tool that is being used by our security team at the 9th Grade Center and the 10-12 Grade Center and they have complained for quite some time because the system we have is not working up to par. Mr. Reynolds stated that this recommendation and this project was to bring that system up to its potential to support their efforts and not specifically as a safety mechanism for student safety. Mr. Reynolds added that it is really for surveillance of the buildings and monitoring the coming and going from the building.

Dr. Goodin read from the Pennsylvania State Police School Safety Report which makes recommendations for school safety and one of the items is school surveillance. Dr. Goodin stated he was happy to report to the Board that based upon this report we have those recommendations in place as far as our overall security strategy in the district.

Mrs. Spletzer pointed out that the project was already approved and all the Board is voting on is the final proposal.

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

G. The Board approved accepting the final proposal for the Surveillance System Upgrade at the Senior High School and 9th Grade Center by SimplexGrinnell per the National Joint Powers Alliance Contract #031913-SGL in the amount of \$206,488.18. Funding for this project will come from the Capital Reserve for Technology and was approved by the Board of School Directors at the September 23, 2013 Board meeting.

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-R and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

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

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Bruce W. Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations and Facilities, to attend the “*Asbestos Certification/Recertification Courses*” in New Cumberland, PA on April 3, 2014. The total cost for this conference is \$200.00 (registration, mileage and meals) from the Maintenance and Operations Budget. No substitute is needed.
- B. **Elizabeth Leiss**, Human Resource Director, to attend “*PA Association of School Personnel Administrators State Conference*” in Harrisburg, PA from February 25 through February 28, 2014. There is no cost to the district since Mrs. Leiss serves on the PASPA Executive Board. No substitute is needed.
- C. **Dr. Allyn Roche**, Assistant Superintendent, **Elizabeth Leiss**, Human Resource Director, plus an additional administrator, to be determined, to attend the “*Greater Philadelphia Teacher Job Fair*” at Neumann University in Aston, PA on March 4, 2014. The total cost to attend is \$475.00 (registration and mileage). No substitute is needed.
- D. **Dr. Jeanmarie Mason**, Special Education Supervisor, to attend the “*Council for Exceptional Children 2014 Convention*” in Philadelphia, PA from Wednesday, April 9 through Saturday, April 12, 2014. The total cost for this convention is \$384.00 (registration). No substitute is needed.
- E. **Deborah Smith**, Administrative Assistant – Child Accounting, to attend “*2014 A/CAPA (Attendance/Child Accounting Professional Association) Spring Conference*” in Hershey, PA from March 18 through March 21, 2014. There is no cost for this conference as Mrs. Smith serves as the Association’s Vice President. No substitute is needed.

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- F. **Charles Applegate**, Systems Administrator, **Robert Cywinski**, Network Administrator, and **Richard Grove**, Systems Technician, to attend “*Tech Talk Live*” at IU 13 in Lancaster, PA on May 6 and May 7, 2014. The total cost for this conference is \$1,112.00 (registration and mileage). Funding will come from the Technology Budget. No substitutes are needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- G. **Kelly German**, Business Teacher and FBLA Advisor, to attend “*Future Business Leaders of America – State Competition and Leadership Conference*” at the Hershey Lodge & Convention Center from April 7 through April 9, 2014. Ms. German will be accompanying FBLA students who have advanced to the state competition. The total cost for this conference is \$1,027.00 (registration, lodging, meals and substitute for 3 days).
- H. **Mary Ann Group**, Science Teacher, and **Tomomi Mitsuzuka**, Student - Class of 2014, to attend “*Emerging and Persistent Infectious Diseases: Focus on Pandemic Preparedness*” at Ursinus College in Collegeville, PA on Friday, April 11 and Saturday, April 12, 2014. There is no cost for this conference other than \$150.00 for a one day substitute.
- I. **Khrystin Herb**, Teacher and Student Assistance Program Coordinator, to attend “*PASAP PAMLE Conference*” at Penn State College in State College, PA from February 22 through February 25, 2014. The total cost to the district for this conference is \$300.00 for a substitute for two days as all other expenses are being paid by PASAP.
- J. **Yvonne O’Dea**, Vocal Teacher, to attend “*PMEA State Conference*” in Hershey, PA from March 27 through March 29, 2014. Mrs. O’Dea will accompany the choir who have been invited to perform at the conference this year. She will also be accompanying those students who advance to All-State Ensembles. The total cost for this conference is \$996.50 (registration, transportation, lodging, meals and a substitute for two days).
- K. **Mary C. Palladino**, Teacher, to attend “*AP Reading for the 2014 AP Statistics Exam*” in Kansas City, MO from June 10 through June 18, 2014. Mrs. Palladino has been invited to serve as a reader for the 2014 AP Statistics Exam. There is no cost for her to attend as all expenses are being paid by The College Board. No substitute is needed.

9TH GRADE CENTER

- L. **Dr. Tina Weidenbaugh**, Principal, to attend “*RAISE: Reading Apprenticeship Implementation Plan*” at PaTTAN in Harrisburg, PA on February 10 and February 11, 2014. The total cost for this conference is \$92.96 (mileage). No substitute is needed.

5/6 GRADE CENTER

- M. **Jenifer Smith**, Speech Clinician, to attend “*Managing Cluttering in the School-Age Child*” at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on April 10, 2014. There is no cost for this conference. No substitute is needed.
- N. **Joan Kenney** and **Jenifer Smith**, Speech Clinicians, to attend “*Integrating Mobile Technology into Evidence-Based Practices for Speech-Language Pathologists*” at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on February 26, 2014. The total cost for this conference is \$17.36 (mileage). No substitutes are needed.

ROYERSFORD

- O. **Matthew Bornais**, Teacher, to attend “*CDT Item Data and Alignment Review Meetings (Grades 3-5)*” at the Sheraton Harrisburg/Hershey in Harrisburg, PA from January 21 through January 23, 2014. The total cost for this conference is \$450.00 for a substitute for three days.

UPPER PROVIDENCE

- P. **Christopher Talley**, Emotional Support Teacher, to attend “*Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Initial Training*” at the MCIU on February 3 and February 4, 2014. The total cost for this training is \$471.88 (registration, mileage and a substitute for the two days).

DISTRICT-WIDE

- Q. **Gregory Detweiler** and **Edward M. Koneski**, Maintenance Staff, to attend “*2014 Eastern Pennsylvania Turf Conference and Trade Show*” in King of Prussia, PA on January 7 and January 8, 2014. The total cost for this conference is \$360.00 (registration). Funding will come from the Maintenance Budget. No substitutes are needed.

- R. **Melanie Bowen**, Teacher, **Jennifer Rinehimer**, 5th Grade House Principal, **Edward Zachary Stewart**, Teacher, to attend “*Caron Student Assistance Program Training*” in Plymouth Meeting, PA from February 10 through February 12, 2014. The total cost for this training is \$940.00 (mileage and substitutes for Ms. Bowen and Mr. Stewart for the three days). All other costs are being paid through a PDE Grant.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Cirese asked Dr. Goodin with regards to Item B what the district’s savings were. Dr. Goodin replied that just in electrical usage the district saved approximately \$90,000 just by going with a 4-day week for seven weeks.

Mrs. Heine asked if we were in the process of contacting organizations who use our facilities in the summer as she knows there was some disconnect last year. Dr. Goodin replied yes that we were in the process of contacting those organizations to make accommodations.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A & C and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board acknowledged the acceptance of a donation of \$1,500.00 from **Mr. & Mrs. Ty Remp**. Mr. & Mrs. Remp hosted a motorcycle benefit ride to raise money for the Learning Support Department at Brooke Elementary School. There were 85 riders who participated in this fundraising event. The Rempes requested that the donation be used towards the Special Education classes at Brooke Elementary for whatever may be needed but is not funded elsewhere.
- C. The Board approved a 4-day summer work week schedule, as a cost saving measure. The summer schedule would begin on the Friday of the 1st full week following the last student day and end on the Friday of the second week of August.

D. The following policy is submitted for a first reading:

1. Policy #204: PUPILS: Attendance

XI. INFORMATIONAL ITEM

A. Effective January 1, 2014, the IRS mileage rate will decrease from 56.5 cents per mile to 56 cents per mile.

XII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

There were no comments from the public.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
Board Secretary