On January 31, 2005, the board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:37 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Bernard F. Pettit and Raymond Rocchio, Jr.
Region II: Ammon Morgan, Jr. and Janet Stokes
Region III: Joseph Ciresi and Ed Cummins
Presiding Officer: Michael Masciandaro
Solicitor: Marc B. Davis, Esquire

I. DISTRICT GOALS

Mrs. Stokes said the board property committee recommended that the district office issue be looked at in six months. Mr. Masciandaro said the District Goal #12 would be adjusted to reflect this change. District Goal #6 involving continuing education would have a timeframe of in the fall of 2005.

II. PRESENTATION

A. William Breslawski, Jr. of Maillie, Falconiero & Company presented a review of the firm’s recent audit of Spring-Ford Area School District. There were no findings. The report showed $12 million in capital assets. About 85% of the district’s buildings have not depreciated in value. The General Fund balance is 6 to 8% of revenues, which is safe. There were no findings on the federal programs. Recommendations were given at the finance committee meeting but do not have an impact on the District’s financial health. Spring-Ford has one of the best set of records the firm has seen. The firm is currently auditing 18 school districts.

Mr. Rocchio asked if an inventory of school supplies would take place. Yes, replied Mr. Anspach but he did not know the cost. It would cover assets as well. Mrs. Stokes congratulated the business department for not having findings year after year. Mr. Pettit added his congratulations. Dr. Coale commended Mr. Anspach and Mrs. Rhoads for their efforts. Mr. Anspach commended his staff. Mr. Masciandaro said the school district is a multi-million operation.

B. Edward Murray from Boenning & Scattergood, Inc. made a presentation on refinancing of the 1997 and 2001 Series. Mr. Murray said over $800,000 was noted as a net savings but that
figure has risen to $1 million per interest rates today. The 1992 portion was refinanced. The 2001 bonds were for the intermediate school and are being refunded for savings. $39,000,945 would be reissued for $1,040,000 savings as of today. His firm is awaiting a response from Moody’s, insurance, and the district’s counsel. The bonds will be locked in this week. He requested that a special meeting be held on February 10th when the board finance committee would normally meet. The board discussed the timing of the special meeting. Mr. Morgan asked if an additional $2.6 million was being borrowed. Correct said Mr. Murray. It fits into the district’s borrowing capacity, he added. Mrs. Stokes asked about interest rates going up. Mr. Murray said that was factored in. The solicitor said the obligation occurs on February 10th when the district sells the bonds. Mr. Murray further discussed the bonds’ yields and interest. Mr. Masciandaro proposed having a full board meeting on February 10th before the finance meeting and vote on it. The target figure of $800,000 appeared to draw board consensus. (Under New Finance on page 18.)

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Meg Hunsberger, Limerick Township
Addressed the safety of students during voting when schools are used as polling places. Said policy of allowing voting in the schools is inconsistent with keeping students safe.

Mrs. Stokes said she called Voter Services and spoke with Patricia Allen whose job involved polling places. She indicated that the polling place does not need to be located within the voting district. Mr. Masciandaro proposed discussing the issue under Old Business.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 7-0.

A. The board approved of the November 15, 2004 work session minutes.

Mr. Morgan asked whether the February 17th meeting was posted on the district website. It was posted on the calendar. It was on the calendar on the website. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item B. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 7-0.

B. The board approved of the November 22, 2004 board meeting minutes.
Mr. Morgan asked whether Dr. Coale’s retirement letter was attached to the minutes and Mr. Masciandaro requested that it be so. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item C. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 7-0.

C. The board approved of the December 6, 2004 board regular and organizational meeting minutes.

V. PERSONNEL

Mr. Rocchio made a motion to approve Items A-N. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 7-0.

A. The individuals listed below have completed three years of satisfactory service as temporary professional employee(s) and are, therefore, entitled to tenure status. The Public School Code requires that a record of this accomplishment be incorporated in the Minutes of this Board of School Directors. Board officers authorized execution and presenting of a professional employee contract to:

- Christina Berkheiser, Ment/Physically Handicapped
- Autumn Herbst, Mathematics
- Kirsten Ferry, English

B. The board approved of the following resignations:

1. **Dolores Furlan**, Supervisor of Special Education, effective July 1, 2005 for the purpose of retirement.


C. The board approved of **Kathleen D. Gebhard**, Birdsboro, PA, as a Long Term Substitute, for the Learning Support position at Brooke Elementary School replacing Shelly Mallozzi who will be on a Leave of Absence until the end of the 2004/2005 school year. Ms. Gebhard is a graduate of Penn State University with certifications in Elementary Education and Special Education. Compensation will be set at $35,750, BS, Step 1, prorated with benefits, effective January 3, 2005.

D. The board approved of **Joanne Schlichtig**, Phoenixville, PA, as a Long Term Substitute, for the Learning Support position at the 7th Grade Center replacing Kathryn Kruemmling who will be on a Leave of Absence until the beginning of the 4th marking period of the 2004-05 school year. Ms. Schlichtig is currently a per diem substitute for the District. Ms. Schlichtig is a graduate of Cabrini College with certification in Elementary Education. Compensation will be set at $35,750, BS, Step 1, prorated with benefits, effective November 29, 2004.

E. The board approved of **James Brobst**, Spring City, PA, for the Custodial position at the Flex Building replacing Tom Bennett who is no longer employed. Mr. Brobst is currently a per diem substitute for the District. Compensation will be set at $13.44 an hour with benefits as per the Custodial plan effective January 25, 2005.

F. The board approved of **Mary Jo Galen**, Royersford, PA, for the new Cafeteria Manager position at the 9th Grade Center. Ms. Galen is currently a full time food service employee. Compensation will be set at $14.50 an hour with benefits as per the Food Service Plan, effective February 1, 2005.

G. The board approved of the following leaves of absence:

1. **Danielle C. Blackledge**, Science Teacher at the High School, for a leave of absence in accordance with Professional Agreement, effective tentatively April 15, 2005.
2. **George Desko**, Physics Teacher at the High School, for a leave of absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective January 18, 2005.


4. **Shelley Glossner**, Science Teacher at the 7th Grade Center, for a leave of absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively May 20, 2005.

5. **Brandy L. Miller**, Spanish Teacher at the 7th Grade Center, for a leave of absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively April 18, 2005.

H. The board approved of **Michael Siuchta**, Royersford, PA, for the Instructional Assistant position at the High School replacing Elaine Moore who transferred to the 8th Grade Center. Compensation will be set at $12.10 an hour plus $.50 an hour for degree for a total of $12.60 an hour with benefits as per the Assistants' plan, effective January 25, 2005.

I. The board approved of **Kimberly Slickers**, Gilbertsville, PA, for the Secretarial position in Census at the District Office replacing Sandra Smoyer who retired. Compensation will be set at $12.00 an hour plus $1.00 an hour for degree for a total of $13.00 an hour (pending receipt of official transcripts) with benefits as per the Secretarial Plan, effective January 25, 2005.

J. The board approved of the following extra-curricular contracts at the High School:

1. **Alexandra Baello**, High School Cheerleading Coach, Code 1/2 G (Basketball), $1102, prorated, *(replacing Karen D’Orazio who resigned position, effective January 11, 2005)*

2. **Alexandra Baello**, High School Cheerleading Coach, Code 1/2 G (Wrestling), $1102, prorated, *(replacing Karen D’Orazio who resigned position, effective January 11, 2005)*


4. **Michelle D. Albright**, Volunteer Indoor Guard Instructor, Code 1, $1.00
5. **George Growcott, Jr.**, Volunteer Indoor Guard Instructor, Code 1, $1.00

6. **Glenn Rhine**, Volunteer Indoor Guard Instructor, Code 1, $1.00

**K.** The board approved of the following extra-curricular contract at the **High School:**

1. **Craig R. Kehl**, School Detention Supervisor, $2,921, Code E

**L.** The board approved of the following extra-curricular contract at the **8th Grade Center:**

1. **Gerry Hollingworth**, Athletic Event Supervisor-Winter, $892

**M.** The board approved of the following **Professional Staff Substitutes:**

1. **Therese Adkison**, Wayne, PA  Elementary Education

2. **Laura Hawbaker**, Audubon, PA  Music

3. **Jeanette Hellauer**, Limerick, PA  Elementary Education
   - Early Childhood
   - Special Education

4. **Patricia Watts**, Royersford, PA  Family & Consumer Science

**N.** The board approved of the following **Support Staff Substitutes:**

1. **Joanne Dougherty**, Phoenixville, PA, Instructional Assistant, Library Assistant, Secretary
2. **Jane Frain**, Spring City, PA, Secretary
3. **Kimberly Gardner**, Linfield, PA, Instructional Assistant, Food Service Worker
4. **Kenneth Hemerka**, Pottstown, PA, Custodian/Maintenance
5. **Debra V. Liney**, Royersford, PA, Playground and Lunchroom Assistant
6. **Susan M. Pinkham**, Limerick, PA, Instructional Assistant, Lunchroom Assistant, Secretary
7. **Donna Reagan**, Linfield, PA, Instructional Assistant
8. **Kimberly Slickers**, Gilbertsville, PA, Secretary
9. **Sandy Smoyer**, Royersford, PA, Secretary
10. **Michael Siuchta**, Royersford, PA, Instructional Assistant
11. **Fran Vance**, Spring City, PA, Custodian/Maintenance
12. **Erika Whitmore**, Phoenixville, PA, Custodian/Maintenance
V.  FINANCE

Mr. Morgan said that he asked about the need for the Winnies school last January, 1100 residents presented a petition against it, and the increase in baby boomer retirement caused him to continue to question the need for the Winnies school. Dr. Coale said that there is little classroom space left. Mr. Masciandaro asked Dr. Coale about the district-wide facilities meeting. Mrs. Stokes invited all petition signers to attend the February 17th facilities committee meeting. The board discussed the Pennsylvania Economy League data, which reviews developments and potential enrollment. Mr. Cummins asked whether the PEL report aided another school district in deciding whether to build another elementary school. Dr. Coale said the district knew what it needed but it was helpful in providing enrollment figures for the high school/middle school and future long-term growth. Dr. Coale said PEL advised her that the most recent figures are relevant. Mr. Ciresi asked about the building date and Dr. Coale said it was delayed two years from an original plan of 2005. Mr. Ciresi asked about preliminary enrollment and Dr. Coale said classroom space is tight and spaces such as the LGI will be used as classrooms. Dr. Coale said the IDEA and ESL would have an impact on classroom space, not just enrollment alone. The board discussed class size and Dr. Coale emphasized that the district must fully fund elementary education including the requirements of special education or pay compensatory time and/or money under the stipulations of NCLB. Mr. Masciandaro recalled the controversy the district faced with overcrowding and portable units. Mr. Morgan said there was nothing wrong with using portables on a short-term basis. Mr. Masciandaro said they were a permanent fixture that the district was glad to be rid of. Mr. Pettit asked if Mr. Morgan advocated using portables. Mr. Morgan said using them for two to three years was acceptable not as a permanent structure. Mr. Pettit said he was opposed to using them if it can be avoided by planning. Mr. Cummins asked Mr. Morgan what class size he felt was optimum. Mr. Cummins said that Mr. Morgan said 18-20 and that he had the minutes to prove it. Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item A1. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 6-1 with Mr. Morgan voting no.

A.  The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of JANUARY, in connection with the SERIES G.O.B. 2002:

1. WINNIES PROJECT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DLR Group</th>
<th>Professional Services</th>
<th>$ 10,674.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fox Rothschild</td>
<td>Professional Services</td>
<td>$ 1,293.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$ 11,967.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item A2-3. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 7-0.
2. INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

Follett Library       Library Books (4 Invoices) $ 2,046.13
Fox Rothschild      Professional Services (4 Inv.) $ 7,163.32
Nasco                Demonstration Mirror     $ 466.11
Nickerson Corp.      Student Desks            $ 28,444.12
Sportime             4 Folding Goals-Physical Ed $ 359.96
TOTAL                $ 38,479.64

3. UPPER PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Fox Rothschild      Professional Services (2 Inv.) $ 4,269.28
TOTAL                $ 4,269.28

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item A4. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 7-0.

4. MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

Adams-Bickel Assoc.  Applic. #5-General Contractor $2,098,151.47
Crest Environmental Professional Services $ 90.00
DLR Group            Professional Services     $ 7,575.00
Fresh Met. Concrete  2 Yards Concrete         $ 240.00
J&L Building Mater.  9 RL 24” White Coil (Flashing) $ 546.47
Perkins/T.P. Trailers 6 Storage Container/Rental $ 450.00
Spring-Ford S. D.    Clerk of Works/Clerical 04/05 $ 51,779.95
Salaries & Benefits
Sherwin Williams     10 Gal Fire Retardant Paint $ 543.29
U.S. Engineering Lab Construction/Material Testing & Inspection Services $ 4,406.13
*Peter Lumber Co.    Misc. Building Supplies (2 Inv.) $ 1,368.40
TOTAL                $2,165,150.71

Mr. Ciresi asked when the traffic light would be operational. Mr. Cooper said as soon as the weather cooperates. Lines must be drawn on the road to meet PennDoT requirements and the temperature must be right. Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item B. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved by 6-0-1 with Mr. Rocchio abstaining.

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

Lenni Electric Corp.  Applic. #1- Traffic Signal Install. $ 79,947.00
McMahon Associates  Profession Services (Traffic Sig) $ 2,137.14
TOTAL                $ 82,084.14

Potential Land Purchase
Fox Rothschild      Professional Services     $ 3,033.93
TOTAL                $ 3,033.93
Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items C-M. Mr. Cummins seconded the motion. It was approved 7-0.

C. The board approved of 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**
   - Check No. 101018-101578  $1,735,721.59
   - Check No. 101579-101631  $194,918.81

2. **Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting**
   - Check No. 101632-101783  $1,239,764.22

3. **Board Checks held for approval**
   - Check No. 101784-101926  $122,543.41

4. **Plotts Checks**
   - Check No. 101928  $1,558.09

5. **Scott Foresman Checks**
   - Check No. 101927  $3,087.33

6. **Athletic Fund- December**
   - Check No. 296684-296819  $17,460.47

* NEW BUSINESS
E. The board approved of the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for 2003-2004:

- Limerick Township: No. 19-20
- Royersford Borough: No. 17-19
- Upper Providence: No. 36-38

F. The board approved of the following **additions/deletions** from the per capita tax for 2003-2004:

- Limerick Township Additions: No.
- Limerick Township Deletions: No.
- Royersford Borough Additions: No.
- Royersford Borough Deletions: No.
- Spring City Borough Additions: No.
- Spring City Borough Deletions: No.
- Upper Providence Township Additions: No.

G. The board approved of the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

- Checks # 5396-5443
- Checks # 5444-5490

H. The following Treasurers’ Reports were approved by the board:

- General Fund – Checking Account – November 30, 2004
- Payroll Account – November 30, 2004
- General Fund – Money Market – November 1, 2004
- Treasurer’s Report – November 30, 2004
- Investments Flex CD – November 30, 2004
- PSDLAF – November 30, 2004
- PSDMAX – November 30, 2004
- Debt Service Acct – November 2004
- General Fund – November 30, 2004
- Capital Reserve – November 30, 2004
- General Fund – Tax Account – November 30, 2004
- Elementary Activity Account – November 30, 2004
- Middle School 7th Grade Activities Acct – November 30, 2004
- Middle School Acct – November 30, 2004
- High School Activity Acct – November 30, 2004
- Alumni Association – November 30, 2004
- Athletic Fund – November 30, 2004
- Capital Reserve Fund – November 30, 2004
- Note of 2002 – November 30, 2004
- Note of 2003 – November 30, 2004
- Note of 2004 – November 30, 2004
- Cafeteria Money Market – November 30, 2004
- Cafeteria Checking Acct – November 30, 2004
The following reports were submitted for board information:
- Cafeteria Savings Schedule
- Cafeteria Investment Schedule
- Cafeteria Profit and Loss Statement
- Cafeteria Participation Report
- Cafeteria List of Bills

The board approved of bids for supplies for the 2005-06 school year. Supplies would include but not be limited to custodial, art, general, paper, medical, physical education, science, technology education, and furniture.

The board approved of participation in the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit bid for Copier Paper and other bids deemed to be advantageous for the 2005-06 school year.

The board approved of the following independent contracts:

1. **Perkiomen Valley Watershed**, One Skippack Pike, Schwenksville, PA 19473. Four (4) “Winter Secrets” programs for Kindergarten students. Presentations about Animals in Winter - Two presentations each on January 25th and 26th. Effective date is present until January 26, 2005 @$75.00 per
presentation not to exceed Three Hundred Dollars, ($300.00)
Funding is from the Oaks PTA.

2. **Duane DeWire**, 427 Jefferson Street, Northumberland, PA 17857-9799 – to 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 2004-2005 school year. Set service will not exceed $4,430.00 payments on the basis of twenty-five days (25) for the 2004-2005 school year at $177.20 per day.

3. **Sadeckky’s Puppets**, 313 5th Ave. Tarentum, PA 15084 – to provide two (2) assemblies reference R.E.S.P.E.C.T at the Oaks Elementary School on March 31, 2005. Alex is being punished for being disrespectful too often. He loses his favorite activity (playing video games) for a month. Heartbroken, Alex is shocked to learn that he will not earn back his favorite pastime unless he is able to show respect to others for the next 30 days. At home and at school, Alex is surprised to find that maybe treating others with kindness and respect is a good thing, and something that he should be doing for longer than 30 days. ... like maybe for the rest of his life. Set service will not exceed Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars ($950.00). Funding is from the Oaks PTA.

4. **Full Effect Production** Po Box 345 – Cliffwood, NJ 07721 – to provide two assemblies of the performance “America: Land of Dreams” on December 16, 2004 at Oaks Elementary School " is an educational program that combines magic, comedy, and music to motivate and inspire children to follow their dreams. We will educate our audience on the importance of believing in themselves as well as respecting and working together with others. America is the land of freedom that we all enjoy today. Famous Americans and symbols of freedom will be discussed, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Betsy Ross, and The Statue of Liberty. As the world changes it is more important now, than ever before, for today’s children to understand why freedom is so valuable and what they can do to keep America the greatest country in the world. Effective date from present until December 16, 2004. Not to exceed Nine Hundred Dollars ($900.00). Funding is from the oaks PTA.

5. **The Wycliffe Gordon Quartet**, 126 W. 121st Street #4, New York, NY 10027 – to provide services in connection with 2005 Middle School Jazz Festival and concert series. The Quartet will adjudicate the middle school jazz festival and perform 2 numbers prior to the awards presentation on Thursday March
3rd, 2005. On March 4th a yearly public concert will be given by quartet, to show case this years guest clinicians. $1,000 Funding is from the Spring-ford Music Association. Remainder by school district. Funding is not to exceed $12,500.00.

6. **Great Valley Nature Center**, Route 29 & Hollow road, Devault, PA. 19432 – to provide two (2) 35 minute presentation of an outreach program entitled, “Winter Wonders” and “Fur”, Feathers, and “Fins” on April 19, 2005 in which participants will explore the adaptations that animals need during winter in order to survive and an introduction to animal classification. Presentations not to exceed Three Hundred Dollars ($300.00). Funding is from the Royersford Elementary PTO.

7. **The Pathway School**, 162 Egypt Road, Norristown, PA 19403-3090, to provide educational services for a student who receives special education services as per the student’s IEP. Services will be provided at the cost of one hundred seventy-three dollars and eight cents ($173.08) per day for a period of one hundred five (105) days. The total cost of the contract shall not exceed eighteen thousand one hundred seventy-three dollars and forty cents ($18,173.40). Funding will be provided from dollars budgeted in the 2004-2005 District Special Education Budget.

8. **Devereux Day School**, 600 East Boot Road, Downingtown, PA 19335, to provide direct instruction in the school environment and diagnostic evaluations for a period of forty-five (45) days for a student who receives special education services. Services will be provided at the cost of one hundred sixty dollars ($160.00) per day not to exceed forty-five (45) days. Contract shall be in effect from 1/12/05 to 3/21/05. The total cost shall not exceed seven thousand two hundred dollars ($7,200.00). Funding will be provided from the 2004-2005 Special Education Budget.

M. The board approved of the Audit for the year ending June 30, 2004 from the Independent Auditors Maillie, Falconiero & Company. The audit report listed no findings and the district finances are in excellent shape.

VI. PROPERTY

Mr. Ciresi thanked the home and school groups for getting the funding to put up the signs at Upper Providence and Spring City elementary schools. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-D. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 7-0.
A. **Traffic Signal Installation - High School**
The board approved of **Change Order #1** in the amount of $1,024.00 to **Lenni Electric**. This change order is due to the length of the overhead mastarms and also to underground utility conflicts as per approval of the engineer and Penn Dot. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve.

B. The board approved of a donation of a 72 inch by 48 inch **information sign for Spring City Elementary School** that would include the school's name and 4 lines of 6 inch text. The Spring City Parent Teacher Association is making the donation. Once approved, the administration will file a zoning/conditional use hearing application with East Vincent Township to permit installation of the sign.

C. The board approved of a donation of a 4 by 6 foot **information sign for Upper Providence Elementary School**. The Upper Providence Elementary Home and School League is making the donation.

D. The Board authorized the solicitor and business manager to proceed to settlement in the Greenstein Trust and Sukonik Condemnation matters. The Board additionally authorized the payment of $3,600,000 based on a preliminary appraisal report, plus interest, along with normal and customary settlement costs to Sukonik. In regard to Greenstein, the Board authorized the payment of just compensation in the amount of $450,000, plus interest, payable to the Greenstein Trust along with normal and customary settlement costs.

**VII. CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CODE: 580 Account: Conference/Training, registration, food, and accommodations</th>
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Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-I. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 6-0.

A. **Timothy C. Anspach**, Business Manager and **Shirley A. Rhoads**, Assistant Business Manager, to attend “**Property Tax Relief: Preparing for May 30**” at the Chester County Intermediate Unit on Wednesday, January 19, 2005. This conference will explore the
factors to consider, outline the data needed to make an informal
decision and provide tools to assist the district in the decision
making process. The total cost of this conference is $200.00 from
the 580 account.

B. Gary L. Spohn, Director of Technology, and Sarah K. Sacks,
Software Specialist to attend the “PA Educational Technology Expo
and Conference” in Hershey, PA on Monday, February 21, 2005.
This expo and conference will provide information that is needed to
stay current with technology trends, as well as software and
hardware within the Educational environment. The total cost of the
conference is $290.00 from the 580 account.

C. Bruce W. Cooper, Director of Planning, Operations and Facilities,
to attend “2005 PA Rural Water Association Conference” at the
Penn State Conference Center from Tuesday, March 29, 2005
through Friday, April 1, 2005. This conference will provide updates
on the PA use and safety and supply of our water. The total cost of
the conference is $797.00 from the 580 account.

D. Michael McDaniel, Director of Athletics, to attend “PA State
Athletic Directors Association Conference” in Hershey, PA from
Wednesday, March 16, 2005 through Saturday, March 19, 2005.
This conference will provide professional opportunities as well as
management seminars that will offer strategies for both new and
experienced athletic directors. The total cost of the conference is
$616.00 from the 580 account.

E. Dolores Furlan and Carol Frankel, Supervisors of Special
Education, to attend “Special Education Plan Training” at PaTTAN
in King of Prussia, PA on Thursday, January 27, 2005. This
training is required for preparing and submitting the District’s
School Plan to the PA Department of Education. The total cost of
the training is $29.00 from the 580 account.

F. Dr. Lucille F. Candeloro, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction,
to attend the “2005 Association for Supervision and Curriculum
Development Annual Conference” from Thursday, March 31, 2005
through Monday, April 4, 2005 in Orlando, FL. This national
conference addresses the professional development needs of
curriculum and instruction directors by offering workshops in current
educational legislation, trends, and materials. The estimated cost
for this conference is $1,440.00 from the 580 account.
G. Shirley A. Rhoads, Assistant Business Manager, to attend “A/CAPA Conference” in Hershey, PA from Wednesday, March 30, 2005 through Friday, April 1, 2005. This conference will provide updates on the child accounting issues affected by the NCLB Act. The total cost of this conference is $569.00 from the 580 account.

H. Debbie Smith, Administrative Assistant, Child Accounting at the District Office, to attend A/CAPA Conference, Hershey, PA, on March 30 through April 1, 2005. The total cost of the conference is $669 from the 580 account.

HIGH SCHOOL

I. Katherine Verespy, Learning Support Teacher, to attend “Co-Teaching That Works Effective Strategies for Working Together in Today’s Inclusive Classroom (1-12)” in King of Prussia, PA on Monday, February 28, 2005. This conference will help Katherine prepare for the possible changes in the special education program where we will be mainstreaming special education students in science and history. The total cost of the conference is $300.00 - $175.00 from the Special Education Budget and $125.00 from the substitute account.

Mrs. Stokes repeated her comment about coaches leaving their jobs to go to coaching conferences and have substitutes take their place. Said she would continue to vote no on this issue. Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item J. Mr. Morgan seconded it. It was approved 6-1 with Mrs. Stokes voting no.

J. Gary Rhodenbaugh, Head Football Coach, to attend “2005 PA Scholastic Football Coaches Association Kick-Off Classic” at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center on Friday, February 4, 2005. This conference will benefit the student-athletes by allowing for professional growth for the coaching staff. The total cost of this conference is $445.00 - $320.00 from the Athletic Budget and $125.00 from the substitute account.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item K-S. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 7-0.

MIDDLE SCHOOL – 8TH GRADE CENTER

K. Barry Shafer, Athletic Coordinator, to attend “PA State Athletic Director’s Association Conference” at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center in Hershey, PA from Wednesday, March 16
through Saturday, March 19, 2005. This conference will provide Barry the opportunity to share ideas with other athletic coordinators and offers strategies for new and experienced athletic directors at the workshops which are included. The total cost of the conference is $556.00 from the Athletic Budget. No substitute is needed.

L. **Renee Wielgomas**, Teacher, to attend “Student Assistance Program Training” at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Monday, April 25, Tuesday, April 26, Tuesday, May 3, and Wednesday, May 4, 2005. This is just a notification of a change in conference dates as this was previously approved at the October board meeting but due to the conference being full Renee had to reschedule.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL – 7TH GRADE CENTER**

M. **Kathryn Donohue** and **Karen Bleakly**, Learning Support Teachers, to attend “Progress Monitoring Training” at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Monday, January 24, Monday, February 7, and Wednesday, May 18, 2005. Attendance at this conference is mandatory in order to develop skills and methods for the data collection methodology of Progress Monitoring to provide more information to direct educational process and reporting to parents. The total cost of this conference is $755.00 - $55.00 from the Special Education Budget and $700.00 from the substitute account.

N. **Russell Mattison**, school psychologist, to attend “Stop Walking on Eggshells – Therapy with Reactive, Explosive, Indulged, and Other Difficult Adolescents” in Lancaster, PA on Friday, February 4, 2005. This conference will instruct Russ in helping students deal with anger management and helping parents set limits for explosive behavior. The total cost of this conference is $148.50 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

**INTERMEDIATE 5/6 CENTER**

O. **Mary Pat Long** and **Wendy McDonnell**, Title I teachers, to attend “Pennsylvania Association of Federal Programs Coordinator’s Annual Conference” at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, PA from Sunday, April 10 through Wednesday, April 13, 2005. This conference will provide Mary Pat and Wendy with details on current policies to ensure our compliance with proper use of federal funds. This conference is funded by our Title I Grant. The total cost of this conference is $2178.00 - $1428.00 from the Title I Grant and $750.00 from the substitute account.
BROOKE

P. **Jo-Ann Messer**, Learning Support Teacher, to attend “Make and Take for the PASA Workshop” at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Tuesday, March 8, 2005. This state provided training will address the format, assessment, process and criteria for teachers administering the PASA test. The total cost of this conference is $143.00 - $18.00 from the Special Education Budget and $125.00 from the substitute account.

Q. **Susan Pronchik**, Guidance Counselor, to attend “PA School Counselor’s Association Conference” at the Penn State Conference Center in State College, PA from Wednesday, April 20 through Friday, April 22, 2005. Susan has been asked to be a presenter at this conference on therapeutic strategies to support female relationships and improve self-esteem and assertiveness skills. The total cost of this conference is $526.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

ROYERSFORD

R. **David Willauer**, Principal, to attend “National Association of Elementary School Principal’ 84th Annual Convention and Exposition” from Friday, April 15, 2005 through Tuesday, April 19, 2005. This annual convention will offer a variety of sessions that will address new techniques and strategies for elementary principals. The total cost of the convention is $1,170.00 from the 580 account.

UPPER PROVIDENCE

S. **Daniel Mountz** and **David Pence**, Teachers, to attend “PA Educational Technology Exposition and Conference” in Hershey PA on Tuesday, February 22, 2005. Daniel and David have been asked to be presenters at this conference on how to use the Palm handhelds in the classroom to enhance the curriculum. The total cost of this conference is $525.90 - $275.90

VIII. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A and B. Mr. Morgan seconded it. It was approved 7-0.

A. The board approved that student number 30405 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.
B. The board approved that student number 40405 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Pettit made a motion to accept the settlement in the PECO assessment case, which provides payments to the district in the following amounts:

- 2005-06 - $2,082,000
- 2006-07 - $2,082,000
- 2007-08 - $1,874,260
- 2008-09 - $1,874,260

Mr. Ciresi seconded the motion. The solicitor said these figures were close or exceeded payments received by the district to date.

PUBLIC COMMENT on this item

There was no comment.

The board voted 7-0 in favor of the New Business item.

X. NEW BUSINESS

XI. NEW PERSONNEL

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-E. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 7-0.

A. The board approved of the resignation of Susan Martin, Instructional Assistant at the Middle School, 7th Grade Center, effective January 21, 2005.

B. The board approved of the following leave of absence:

1. Diane E. Campbell, Special Education Teacher at the Intermediate School, 5/6th Grade Center, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively April 1, 2005 until the end of the 2004/2005 school year.

C. The board approved of Timothy Sherman, Spring City, PA, as a part-time auxiliary service employee to provide security for the District, on an as-needed basis. Compensation will be set at $12.50 an hour without benefits, effective January 25, 2005.
D. The board approved of the following Professional Staff Substitutes:

1. **Colleen Boyle**, King of Prussia, PA  Special Education Elementary Education
2. **Amber Cornwall**, Harleysville, PA  Special Education Elementary Education
3. **Gerald Ott**, Levittown, PA  Physics

E. The board approved of the following Support Staff Substitutes:

1. **Cynthia Isabella**, Royersford, PA  Instructional Assistant Library Assistant Playground Assistant Secretary
2. **Karen Lyons**, Limerick, PA  Secretary Instructional Assistant
3. **John Panaro**, Spring City, PA  Custodian
4. **June Perry**, Spring City, PA  Custodian
5. **Christine Trapp**, Pottstown, PA  Instructional Assistant Library Assistant Lunchroom Assistant Playground Assistant
6. **Sally Whitton**, Spring City  Custodian

XII. **NEW FINANCE**

Mrs. requested that the figure of $800,000 be attached to the motion. Mr. Pettit said that he believed that was not necessary. Mr. Morgan said he was not comfortable that the reissuance of this bond would cover the $37,305,000 for the Series 1997 2001 bond. In reality, the district is borrowing more money, he said and he disagreed with that. Mr. Cummins said the district is netting $1 million back. When you refinance your house, you have to take the principal and build a little more into it but your payment is much less and you save money over the whole period said Mr.
Masciandaro. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item A. The board voted 6-1 in favor of Item A with Mr. Morgan voting no.

A. The board approved of Resolution 2005-1 for the issuance of bonds to finance the advance refunding of a portion of the District’s Series 1997 General Obligation Bonds and all of the District’s Series 2001 General Obligation Bonds.

XIII. NEW PROPERTY

Mr. Ciresi asked for an explanation of Item B. Mr. Cooper said that the district goes to bid for mowing of Spring City, Oaks, and Limerick elementary schools. Each year, the district attempts to pick up more of the mowing but there is not enough staff to do it all. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-B. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 7-0.

A. The board approved of a service contract to Tri-State Balancing Co for start-up and commissioning of HVAC Systems for the 9th G C in the amount of $12,500.00. Funds will come from the construction fund.

B. The board approved of soliciting bids for Turf Maintenance / Mowing and Trimming for the year 2005-2006 with the option to continue for year 2 and/or 3 year contract on a per school basis and award to the lowest responsible bidder upon solicitor’s review.

XIV. NEW OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 7-0.

A. The board approved of the state mandated Technology Plan Amendment for the Spring-Ford Area School District. The original 2003-2005 plan was to be rewritten for the 2005-2006 School Year; however, PDE has chosen to revise the timeline for new technology plans. Due to the requirements of District eligibility for future state and federal technology funding, the existing plan must be extended through amendment. The amendment is due to be submitted to Harrisburg this month. Approval of the plan as amended does not imply approval of individual initiatives.

XV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

XVI. OLD BUSINESS
A. Location of Polling Places – Mrs. Williams
Mrs. Stokes said it was appropriate to send a letter seeking alternative polling places. Mr. Pettit requested coordinating in-service days during polling if the district cannot get polling out of the schools. Mr. Ciresi said the addition of the Jewish holiday that it was not possible to add an in-service day. He said that he preferred moving voting out of the schools. Dr. Coale recommended that polling should be removed from the buildings based on data provided by building principals. Education is the district’s priority, she added. Dr. Coale said the problem with the in-service day was timing training at that time with district goals. Mr. Morgan asked Mrs. Stokes to write a letter to the county. Dr. Coale recommended that the letter come from the board since the election board has not responded to letters she had written previously. Mr. Masciandaro said the board would do so. Mr. Cummins asked who decides this issue and the solicitor said the school district. Mr. Ciresi said that security was the top priority and that the election board can find a polling place outside of a voting region’s boundary.

MOTION BARRING POLLING IN DISTRICT SCHOOLS

Mr. Ciresi made a motion that the board vote to not allow elections in the district’s schools. Mr. Pettit seconded it.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Meg Hunsberger, Limerick
Said handicapped access is important. Spring-Ford has the option to allow voting in the schools.

The board voted 6-1 in favor of the motion with Mr. Morgan voting no.

The solicitor recommended that the board review the lease he presumed the district has with the election board to see whether it could be terminated at will. Dr. Coale said there was no lease. The solicitor said if there is no lease, that’s better. It’s your facility and you have the right to terminate, he said. Just make sure it’s in accordance with any agreement with the county, he added. Mr. Masciandaro requested that she check it out.

B. Act 72 Public Forum Confirmation for February 16 – Mr. Masciandaro said the forum would take place in the Spring-Ford Senior High School cafeteria on February 16th at 7 p.m. He invited the public to learn more about Act 72 from various speakers. Mr. Cummins said that PSBA’s Tim Allwein said that if the vote was taken today that over 70% of Pennsylvania school district would opt
out of Act 72. He suggested inviting Mr. Allwein, Dr. Shivley from the MCIU. Mr. Masciandaro assigned this task to Mr. Cummins. Mrs. Stokes suggested inviting state legislators and Mr. Masciandaro said he already asked Dr. Coale to do that.

C. Response from Mr. Tucker on WCTS Question – Mr. Masciandaro said this issue was handled in executive session.

D. Date for WCTS Special Meeting – Mr. Masciandaro said that February 23rd was a confirmed date for this meeting at 7:30 p.m.

E. Energy Savings Plan sent to board – Dr. Coale said the cost containment plan was distributed to board members. Three schools will present at the next property committee meeting.

F. Alternative School Proposal: Issues and Questions – Mr. Masciandaro said this topic would be handled at the curriculum committee meeting.

G. Determine Ad Hoc Committee – Mr. Masciandaro said he’d take this up at the next work session meeting. This committee is activated by need. That committee is comprised by members from each region. Mrs. Stokes said that she thought members would be chosen based on expertise in regard to the issue. Mr. Masciandaro said it was a standing committee.

XVII. SOLICITOR’S REPORT
Mark Cappuccio wrote the board recommends the district enter an agreement where the Reitour investment property assessment would be $4,163,506 for a period of three years.

MOTION ON REITOUR PROPERTY ASSESSMENT
Mr. Pettit made a motion to accept the Reitour investment property assessment.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THIS TOPIC
There was none.

The board voted 7-0 in favor of this motion.
Mr. Cummins asked why the response to Mr. Tucker is not being made public. Mr. Masciandaro said it was a potential legal issue and that he thought the board would need to digest it.

XVIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD
Mrs. Hunsberg, Limerick
Thanked the board for putting the children first in the polling place issue.

XIX. ACTION REVIEW
Mr. Masciandaro announced that there would be an executive session after the meeting on the topic of personnel. There will be another executive session on Thursday night. There is a correction on February 10th, which will be held at the high school. Mr. Cummins said the extracurricular committee meeting would be held at 6:15 pm to accommodate the executive session.

XX. BUILDING REPORTS (attached)

XXI. ADJOURNMENT

Spring-Ford Goals May 14, 2004

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

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

Goal Action Proposals:

1. Reduce class sizes (Original Goal #1)
   Assignment: Property and Facilities Committees

2. Perform Feasibility Study on creation of “in house” alternative educational program
   (Original Goal #3)
Assignment: Curriculum Committee

3. Student Health and Safety - Reduce drug usage. (Original Goal #2)

4. Improve public perceptions of the district, Local industry as a district partner and alternative funding. Non-Monetary Employee Incentive: (Original Goals #4, 5, 16)
   Assignment: Community Relations Committee

5. Key Measures: (Original Goals #6, 7, 8, 9, 12)
   Graduation rate increase, Increase percent of graduates going to post secondary school, Establish a listing of our graduates continuing education school placement, Increase scholarships achieved by our students. Graduate acceptance at top universities and colleges
   Assignment: Full Board.
   Tracking graduates to see how we are doing.
   Assignment: Community Relations

6. School Media centers / libraries open weekends, evenings and summer. Create continuing education programs. (Original Goals #10, 11)
   Assignment: Curriculum Committee

7. Reduce Childhood obesity: (Original Goal #13)
   Assignment: Healthy Choices Committee

8. Increase PSSA and Terra Nova Test Scores: (Original Goal #14)
   Assignment: Full Board

9. Plan for District wide Construction needs: (Original Goal #15)
   Assignment: Facilities Committee

10. Establish a Blue Ribbon School (Original Goal #17)
    Assignment: Curriculum Committee

11. Develop and implement a Five Year Financial Plan (Original Goal #18)
    Assignment: Finance Committee

12. District Office replacement (Original Goal #19)
    Assignment: Full Board

Referenced below are the original goals:

Spring-ford goals Feb 24, 2004 Version 2
Proposals:
1. Reduce class sizes
   - Establish and maintain smaller class sizes K - 6 to lower levels than present that would be in keeping with the desires of the community as established as a goal, of the Districts' Strategic Plan.
   - Class Size: establish a standard of smaller class size through out the district. Begin
with K-6 and move into the middle and high school.

2. Reduce drug usage

   Formally Establish a beefed up Drug prevention program that will both quantify and qualify the types of drugs that are prevalent in the SF School district. Include alcohol, inhalants, and over the counter drugs along with all illicit drugs. Formulate a plan that will address these findings, thru awareness programs, counseling programs, possibly integrated with community based programs. Also provide strong prevention and intervention measures. All results to be reported publicly to the Board twice a year.

3. Reduce costs and provide more services for alternative education.
   - Establish a program for alternative Education within the district. Feature career based programs. programs should be of high quality with approved articulation agreements with Technical institutes and various colleges. DO NOT OVERLAP Programs that are available at WCTS. It is important to keep 'OUR STUDENTS' interested in their future. Any program must be flexible, It should offer Flex hours, day care, internships, intense counseling, and ultimately job placement components. We should stop sending our difficult students out of the district, and along with them hundreds of thousands of our communities tax dollars with them. It is time to treat this issue with respect and dignity and be accountable for all of our students.
   - Determine the feasibility of operating our own alternative school.
   - Special needs Children: Would like to see a study on what the district spends on these children and if possible for the district to bring these children back into the district and instruct them in a district building. With the state cutting its share of funding every year, and tuition going up we need to look at this matter and maybe set up a five-year goal

4. Improve public perceptions of the district
   - Drastically Improve public relations getting positive as well as (possible negative) information to the immediate community expeditiously.

5. Local industry as a district partner
   - Establish a program that beseeches large local industry to be part of District initiatives. This will create an environment that brings fresh ideas (from industry leaders) as well as possible project funding (such as help with technical initiatives, adult evening courses, co-ops etc.
   - Alternative Funding: Interview companies that deals exclusively in marketing and sponsorshp/grants to help the district target possible sources of revenue i.e. Merck, Peco, GM , etc., to help advance programing opportunities in the district.

6. Graduation rate increase

7. Increase percent of graduates going to post secondary school
   - Establish a listing of our graduates continuing education school placement.

Create diversity guidelines.

8. Increase scholarships achieved by our students

9. Tracking graduates to see how we are doing:
   - Create a graduate report, where are they 10, 20 and 30 years later
   - Track graduates to see where and what careers they pursue.

10. School Media centers / libraries open weekends, evenings and summer
11. Create continuing education programs
   - Renew Spring-Ford's commitment to Life-Long Learning by commissioning an Adult Ed Board responsible for oversight and operation of said adult education separate from the operations and involvement of the SFASD Board and Administration, similar to the model currently in use for many successful years in Owen J. Roberts SD.

12. Graduate acceptance at top universities and colleges:
   - Improve the prospects for Spring-Ford students being accepted at top universities and colleges.

13. Reduce Childhood obesity:
   - Promote healthy lifestyles to combat the growing epidemic of childhood obesity.

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

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

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

17. Establish a Blue Ribbon School

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

19. District Office:
   - Commit to a plan, with a time line of no longer than 18 to 24 months (start to finish), to move district office operations to the Bechtel Road site. If this site is unsuitable, find another.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Dillon
Board Secretary