Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday February 17, 2015  
6:30 p.m. High School Faculty Lunchroom

The Community Relations Committee met on Tuesday February 17, 2015 at 6:30 a.m. in the High School Faculty Lunchroom.

In Attendance:

- **Committee Members:** Chairperson Todd Wolf, and Thomas DiBello  
- **Committee Administration Representatives:** Assistant Superintendent Dr. Allyn Roche, and Community Engagement Consultant Erin Crew.  
- **Board Members:** Will Cromley and Kelly Spletzer  
- **Student Representative:** Dana Ludgate  
- **Administration:** Superintendent Dr. David Goodin.  
- **SNAP Organization:** Co-Chairpersons Jennifer Ludgate and Wendy White, Treasurer Tom Jarjisian, Joe Faraci, Diana DiBello, and unidentified other.  
- **RCTV:** RCTV Director Steve Bonetz  
- **Community:** Patricia Wolf

Attached:

1. Meeting Agenda
3. Meeting minutes and information relevant to SNAP:
   a) January 28th, 2015 meeting minutes page 17
   b) May 22nd, 2006 meeting minutes page 1
   c) April 24th, 2006 meeting minutes page 1
   d) February 27th, 2006 meeting minutes pages 1 and 2
   e) SNAP Meeting Notes – Sept 2014
   f) SNAP Meeting Notes – Sept 11, 2013
4. Meeting minutes and information relevant to Update/rewrite Resolution 2015-05
   a) January 20th, 2015 meeting minutes page 14
   b) Copy of original Resolution 2015-05
5. Community Engagement Consultant Update
   a) October 20th, 2014 – February 17th, 2015 Update Document
6) RCTV Update
   a) Ram Country TV 2014 – 2015 Document

The meeting adjourned around 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Wolf
Community Relations Committee Chairperson
AGENDA

1. Review of SNAP finances

2. Update/rewrite Resolution 2015-5 (attached)
   a. Outline upcoming Town Hall event

3. Community Engagement Consultant Update

4. New Branding Pieces
   a. Step-And-Repeat/Pop Up
   b. Table cloth
   c. Window Clings

5. RCTV Update

6. Other (as needed)
RESOLUTION 2015-05

RESOLUTION URGING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ESTABLISH A NEW FUNDING FORMULA FOR BASIC EDUCATION

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania’s more than 1.8 million public school students deserve the highest quality education; and

WHEREAS, the state’s contribution in funding public education as a percentage of basic instructional expenses has declined from over 50% during the mid 1970’s, to less than 35% today; and, on average, other states contribute 44% of total education funding, with Pennsylvania ranking 42 among the 50 states in the amount of state subsidies allocated to support elementary and secondary education and ranks 8th in reliance on local taxes; and

WHEREAS, as the state’s share of K-12 education funding decreases while the number of state and federal mandates for public schools steadily increases each year, additional burden is placed on local taxpayers to make up the difference to ensure that our students’ education is not jeopardized; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, basic education funding has been distributed without the benefit of a funding formula, with the lack of a reliable, fair and transparent funding formula resulting in great disparities in how state education funds are distributed to school districts; and

WHEREAS, these inequities effectively harm the ability of school districts to adequately and fairly provide the resources for the different needs of their students, especially those in poverty, those with disabilities, English language learners and other students; and

WHEREAS, the Spring-Ford Area School District supports the development of a system of public school financing that addresses the needs of school districts and students, and establishes a school funding formula that is equitable, adequate, comprehensive and consistent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Spring-Ford Area School District urges the General Assembly to reinvest its interest in the support of public schools by taking legislative action to establish a formula that is predictable and addresses adequacy and equity for all school districts; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Spring-Ford Area School District will encourage others, including parents, students and district taxpayers, to contact the Pennsylvania General Assembly to convey the importance of establishing a fair and equitable public school funding formula; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution submitted to the elected senators and representatives of the Spring-Ford Area School District in the General Assembly, and to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Adopted this 26th day of January, 2015

______________________________  ________________________________
Diane M. Fern                  Mark P. Dehnert
School Board Secretary         School Board President

(seal)
As the Community Relations Committee Chairperson I would like to emphasize that a community as a whole becomes greater than the sum of its parts when those parts are engaging, interacting, participating, and contributing to the continuous improvement of the whole and its relating parts. The sustenance of relationships is relating. Can we relate? I know that we can!

On the agenda for our Community Relations Committee Meeting held last Tuesday, February 17, 2015:

1. Review of SNAP finances
2. Update/rewrite Resolution 2015-05
3. Community Engagement Consultant Update
4. New Branding Pieces
   a. Step-And-Repeat/Pop Up
   b. Table cloth
   c. Window Clings
5. RCTV Update (Steve Bonetz)
6. Other (as needed)

First on the agenda … Review of SNAP finances:
As per the request made by the board to the Community Relations Committee at the January 28th Work Session (part of the board agenda package) relating to Mr.Ciresi’s suggestion that the board give $10,000 to SNAP to help support the issues created by a budget shortfall, the Committee met with SNAP representatives to discuss their financial situation.

Spring-Ford SNAP: Students Need an Alternate Party (SNAP) is a group of Spring-Ford Area School District parents and community members working with the Spring Ford Education Foundation in an effort to provide a spectacular FREE post-prom event for all Spring-Ford Area High School juniors and seniors, whether they attend the prom or not. The annual post-prom party provides a safe post-prom alternative, focusing on the safety of SFASD students and the Spring-Ford community.

Prom night is statistically one of the most dangerous nights of the year for high school students. SNAP is committed to keeping the Spring-Ford community safe and free from drug and alcohol-related tragedy.

This year’s SNAP Party - Into the Unreal:Where Fantasy becomes Reality will be held Saturday April 25th, 2015 11PM to 4AM
The Remaining Fund Raising Events for this year:
Family Magic Show – February 28, 2015
Dodgeball – March 6, 2015 – Celebrating the 5 D’s in dodgeball: dodge, duck, dip, dive and donate
Dancing with the Stars – March 28th, 2015
Color Run – May 17, 2015

I opened the meeting by asking the SNAP representatives to bring us up to speed with their financial situation. They expressed their sincere concerns about the $10,000 shortfall and the consequences of not having enough money and not having enough volunteers to hold this year’s SNAP post prom party event. They informed us of the fact that the SNAP post prom party being held this year is being financed by the revenues generated from last years fund drive while revenues are being generated this year for next year’s event. They spelled out that not holding the Dancing with the Stars event last year significantly contributed to this year’s budget shortfall.

I expressed my concerns about the school district setting a precedent by subsidizing a community funded event, considering that there are many other community funded groups competing for donated dollars and volunteer time and effort.

This cued a standing Mr. DiBello to passionately proselytize that SNAP, like so many Spring-ford programs, is dying on the vine, and if not subsidized by the Spring-ford School District … if refused a well deserved $10,000.00 financial infusion … SNAP will not be able to continue to provide a spectacular FREE post-prom event. As the deliberation was morphing into debate, a voice in the crowd cried, “You are exaggerating!” which offered some comic relief and served to bring the debate back to deliberation.

Keeping in mind Dana Ludgate’s words of wisdom: The success of the last event is an influential determinant for the success of the current event … Conversation ensued with multiple suggestions for resolution including but not limited to:
- Spring-ford School District subsidizing the event
- Spring-ford School District loaning SNAP funds to get them through this hardship
- Using funds raised this year for next years event to fund this year’s event
- Charging admission to the event.
- Making the post prom event part of the prom and combining efforts to raise funds
- Asking for a specific amount on the SNAP website
- Creating and implementing additional fund raising means and methods

The SNAP review took up most of the allotted 1 hour meeting time.

Financial and historical information has been provided to the board for consideration to determine the possible, plausible, probable and/or proven solutions to SNAP’s financial predicament.
Second on the agenda … Update/rewrite Resolution 2015-05 – Outlining Upcoming Town Hall event. With the limited time we had, we discussed concerns brought up during January 20th Work Session with Item J: Resolution 2015-05 (part of the board agenda package). We recommend submitting the Resolution as is and making plans to invite State Representatives to an upcoming board meeting.

Third on the agenda … Community Engagement Consultant Update
With the limited time we had, Community Engagement Consultant Erin Crew submitted a document highlighting Press Releases/Media Coverage, Upcoming Projects, Social Media Updates. That being said, I’d like to take this opportunity to thank Erin Crew for what she brings to Spring-ford Community engagement efforts.

Fourth on the agenda … New Branding Pieces
With the limited time we had, Community Engagement Consultant Erin Crew and RCTV Director Steve Bonetz briefly discussed the purchase of a branded Spring-ford 8x8 foot backdrop to stage media presentations.
   a. Step-And-Repeat / Pop Up
   b. Table cloth
   c. Window Clings

Fifth on the agenda … RCTV Update
Having run out of time, Steve Bonetz graciously offered to give me a tour of the RCTV Studio. I took him up on his offer and was very impressed with the experience.
Mr. Ciresi commented that a couple of weeks ago he had a conversation with the SNAP Committee which is going into its 9th year. He stated that SNAP is an extremely important program and last year they were not able to raise the same amount of money that they had raised in years past. He stated that this is causing a budgetary issue for SNAP. Mr. Ciresi asked the Board to give $10,000 towards SNAP to help support the issue this year so that it does not fall flat and the tradition that we have had can continue.

Mr. Jackson asked how the $10,000 amount was determined and Mr. Ciresi replied that he and Mr. DiBello asked them and they indicated that this was the approximate shortfall from the year before.

Mr. Dehnert stated that if they were $10,000 short last year it implies that someone had given money out of their pocket and this would indicate we were giving someone that money back. He added that he feels this creates some issues as we would need receipts in order to issue funds.

Mr. Ciresi explained this saying that last year SNAP did not host Dancing with the Stars which normally raises a lot of funds. He stated that the Committee put on the same program as in previous years which has them running at a shortfall for this year so they may not be able to put on the same type of event this year.

Mr. Dehnert asked if the Community Relations Committee could look at this in conjunction with the Business Office.

Mr. Cromley asked if this should fall under extra-curricular. Dr. Roche replied that it is not an extra-curricular as it is a parent run organization and the funds and books are kept through the Educational Foundation. Mr. Dehnert asked if it would fall under community relations and Dr. Roche stated he did not believe it fell under any committee as it is a parent run non-profit organization which supports the SNAP event.

Mr. Dehnert stated that rather than throw a motion out there he would like to see one of the Board Committees take a look at this along with the Business Office and then come back with a recommendation based on a little more in-depth investigation as to what is needed.

Mr. Anspach suggested possibly asking the Educational Foundation to make a donation as a donation was made in the past.

Mr. Dehnert asked what committee this should be taken to. Dr. Roche suggested possibly this was a Finance Committee conversation and they could look at the receipts and information that is there.

Mr. Ciresi stated that possibly the SNAP leaders could meet with administration and explain where they feel the shortfalls are and how much money it is. He stressed the urgency to act on this quickly as the event is in May.

Mr. Dehnert asked if Mr. Wolf would look into this at the next Community Relations Committee meeting. Mr. Wolf replied that he is willing to discuss this.
On May 22, 2006, the board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:32 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Michael V. Masciandaro
Region II: Joseph M. Petrowski
Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi, John S. Grispon, and Robert A. Weber
Presiding Officer: Donna L. Williams
Superintendent: Dr. Marsha R. Hurda
Business Manager: Tim Anspach
Solicitor: Marc Davis, Esq.
Student Rep.: Danny Suraci

Board President, Mrs. Williams, opened the meeting with the call to order, roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance. The Spring-Ford High School Vocal Ensemble sang the Star Spangled Banner.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY
There were no comments or questions.

II. PRESENTATION
Dave Willauer recognized Karly Deitrick on winning first place in the state-wide Braille Challenge Essay Contest. Mr. Willauer acknowledged the Intermediate Unit staff, Karly’s teachers, and her one to one aide for working with and helping Karly on a daily basis. Mrs. Williams and Dr. Hurda presented Karly with a plaque and flowers in honor of her accomplishment. Mr. Ciresi congratulated Mr. Willauer on celebrating 30 years with the district.

A. Presentation recognizing Karly Deitrick, a 4th grade student at Royersford Elementary School, for winning first place in the state-wide Braille Challenge Essay Contest, sponsored by the Braille Institute of America. Karly will be competing in the national competition which will take place in Southern California in June.

Pat Nugent acknowledged the SNAP Committee and thanked them for organizing and making the first post prom a special event for the 600 students who attended.

B. Recognition of the SNAP Committee, especially Cindy Clark, Debbie Landis, Barbara Ann Sharon and Scott Smiley, for their efforts in creating a safe and successful post prom party for the students at Spring-Ford Area High School.
On April 24, 2006, the board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:42 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Michael V. Masciandaro, Bernard F. Pettit and Raymond J. Rocchio, Jr.
Region II: Ammon G. Morgan, Jr., and Joseph M. Petrowski
Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi, John S. Grispon, and Robert A. Weber
Presiding Officer: Donna L. Williams
Superintendent: Dr. Marsha R. Hurda
Business Manager: Tim Anspach
Solicitor: Marc Davis, Esq.
Student Rep.: Kiley Morsch

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Mrs. Williams announced that Royersford Scout Troop 406 was in attendance and would lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Williams announced that SNAP needs approximately 100 volunteers to help with activities for the after prom party on prom night, May 13, 2006. Interested volunteers can call the high school office and leave their name and phone number and a SNAP member will contact them. On April 22, 2006 a Vo-Tech Convention took place at the Western Center for Vocational Studies in an effort to come to a resolution between Spring-Ford, Pottsgrove and the Upper Perkiomen School Districts. Mrs. Williams said that no further comments would be made on this topic so as not to damage any further discussions.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY
No questions or comments.

II. PRESENTATION
Mrs. Williams and Mr. Masciandaro on behalf of the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Directors said goodbye to Kiley Morsch, the student representative to the school board. Kiley was presented with a gift, a plaque and some flowers. Mrs. Williams thanked Kiley for the past year of service to her school and the community. Mrs. Williams introduced Daniel Suraci as the new student representative to the school board.

A. Farewell to the current student representative to the school board, Kiley Morsch. Introduction of the new student representative to the school board, Daniel Suraci.
On February 27, 2006, the board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:37 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Michael V. Masiandaro, Bernard F. Pettit and Raymond J. Rocchio, Jr.
Region II: Joseph M. Petrowski
Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi, John S. Grispon and Robert A. Weber
Presiding Officer: Donna L. Williams
Superintendent: Dr. Marsha R. Hurda
Business Manager: Tim Anspach
Solicitor: Marc Davis, Esq.
Student Rep.: Kiley Morsch

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I. PRESENTATION

Mr. Nugent, on behalf of the Board of School Directors, introduced the students being recognized and their parents. He presented each student with a certificate honoring them for their academic accomplishment.

A. Recognition of Samuel L. Freedlander and Alexandria N. Symonds for being named as finalists in the 2006 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Mr. McDaniel, on behalf of the Board of School Directors, introduced and recognized the Spring-Ford High School Girls’ Basketball Team and Coaches on their achievement this year in winning the Pioneer Conference Championship. He presented the team with Resolution #2006-03 commemorating their achievements. Mr. McDaniel also had the parents of these athletes stand so they could be recognized as well for their support.

B. Presentation of Resolution #2006-03 to the Spring-Ford High School Girls’ Basketball Team commending them for winning the Pioneer Athletic Conference Championship with a league record of 14 wins and 4 losses.

Debbie Landis and Cindy Clark gave a presentation on behalf of SNAP (Students Need an Alternate Party). This group is working to provide Spring-Ford High School with its’ first ever post prom party; an alcohol free, drug free alternative. Mrs. Landis explained that an event of this magnitude requires significant amount
of funding as well as manpower. The SNAP Committee has set a budget of $25,000 - $30,000 and as of now they have raised $10,000. Mrs. Landis commented that they are hoping to receive some type of corporate sponsorship but as of now this has not happened. Parents are being asked to donate money and prizes in order to make this event successful. Information is posted on the high school website. Mrs. Landis thanked Dr. Hurda, Pat Nugent and Bill Shirk for their support. Dr. Hurda recognized Mrs. Landis, Mrs. Clark and the SNAP Committee for their hard work in getting this initial event up and running.

C. Post Prom Party Presentation (SNAP) by Debbie Landis and Cindy Clark.

Due to the absence of Mr. Morgan, Mr. Ciresi gave an overview of the “House of Heroes” Project that the Western Center for Technical Studies is undertaking in an effort to contribute to the area devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Mr. Ciresi said the home would be built here and then transported down to Louisiana via a barge. The United States Army will be setting up a tent city so that the students involved in this project can be on location when the house arrives and assemble it. Mr. Ciresi said the biggest issue for this project is the funding as public tax dollars cannot be used. The estimated cost for this project is $200,000 and donations from our community and surrounding communities is being sought. Mr. Ciresi said additional information is available on the Western Center’s website.

D. Presentation on the WCTS “House of Heroes” Project by Ammon Morgan, Jr.

Dr. Hurda gave a brief overview of how the name was chosen for the new elementary school. The proposed name is Evans Elementary School after the Evans Family, the second family to settle in Limerick. Dr. Hurda gave us the history of the Evans Family and how they settled in Limerick.

E. Presentation on the naming of the new elementary school.

II. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Rick Schroeder, Spring City, asked about Item M under Finance which is the resolution to place money into the Capital Reserve, he wondered if it would not be better to delay this until the preliminary budget has been set. Mr. Schroeder asked about Item K under Personnel and questioned whether it would be better to reword the job posting to just say assistant track coach and not have the emphasis on pole vaulting since there are only a few athletes who actually pole vault. Mr. Schroeder wondered if the support on the “House of Heroes” Project was 100% from the Joint Operating Committee because he has gotten some feedback from members of the Western Center staff who feel they were forced into this and that there may be local people who are in dire need and could benefit from a project like this. Mrs. Williams suggested Mr. Schroeder address this at the next Joint Operating Committee meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item A-B and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.
SNAP MEETING NOTES  SEPT 2014

Total Cash Balance (Savings and Checking as of July 31, 2014. 19,433.34

1. SNAP 2014 Budget $36,100.00

   Actual 2014 Budget spent as of 8-27-2014. $27491.40
   Amount under Budget $8608.60

2. Breakdown of Dollars spent for each area:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admin Supplies</td>
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<td>Decorating</td>
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<td>Entertainment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prizes</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Security/Staff</td>
<td>$1,600.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer Committee</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Historian</td>
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<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>$36,100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>$27,491.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Income Generated (breakdown for each area):

   Individual Donations: $259.55
   Business Donations: $600.00
   SpringFord Got Talent: $5059.02
   SpringFord Live: $2139.44
   Mike Miller Magic Show: $901.94
   Prom Dress Boutique: $889.00
   Prom Tokens: $329.78

   Total Income for 2014 as of 8-24-2014: $10,178.73
   Total Income for 2013: $39,756.13
SNAP MEETING NOTES – Sept 11, 2013

Total Cash Balance (Savings and Checking as of July 31, 2013) $35,600.55

1. SNAP 2014 Budget $36,100.00
   
   Actual 2013 Budget spent as of 4-30-2013 $32,592.39
   Amount under Budget $3,507.61

2. Breakdown of Dollars spent for each area:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
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<td>Admin Supplies</td>
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<td>Security/Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$36,100.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,592.39</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Income Generated (breakdown for each area):

   Individual Donations: $1,275.90
   Business Donations: $100.00
   Family Portrait: $360.70
   DWTS: $27,050.18
   Dodge Ball: $1,964.17
   Prom Dress Boutique: $1,431.17
   Prom Tokens: $987.30
   Mr. Spring-Ford: $5,000.00
   John Cassidy Comedy Show: $1,586.71

   Total Income for 2013 as of 4-30-2013: $39,756.13

Thank you to all for making the 2013 SNAP After Prom Party a huge success. I look forward to working with you all again this year.

Tom J.
VII. **FINANCE**

Mr. Dehnert stated that he looked at the resolution for Item J and he does not feel that it is totally suited for Spring-Ford as it talks about a fair equitable formula for funding. Mr. Dehnert stated that he is not sure what this means but he believes that since Spring-Ford has a good tax base therefore Spring-Ford to be fair would not get as much tax money from the state as other districts would. Mr. Dehnert commented that he is not really in favor of leaving those words in the resolution. Mr. Dehnert added that he feels our fight is that we want the state to fund mandates and provide us with adequate funding.

Mr. Pettit stated that the resolution looks like a fairly innocuous one that the legislators will ignore in any event.

Mrs. Heine commented that she is not in favor of changing the wording to the resolution as this is something that has been used as a platform for getting votes and the funding formula has been discussed many times and needs to change.

Mr. Dehnert again stated that his objection is to the wording “equitable funding”. He added the district’s funding from the state continues to go down.

Mr. DiBello commented that the reason our funding is going down is because the other district’s percentages are going up. The taxes we are collecting are being used against Spring-Ford and that is why we are getting less funding and not equitable funding. Mr. DiBello stated that the whole movement is to have a funding formula in place that is fair across the state for all 499 school districts. Mr. DiBello added that there are some school districts where most of their funding comes from the state whereas Spring-Ford only receives about 21% of their funding from the state.

Dr. Goodin stated that he has been involved with this discussion at the MCIU along with the other Montgomery County Superintendents. Dr. Goodin reported that the Funding Commission is being charged and challenged to look at all 500 districts across the state and provide fair, adequate equal and sustainable funding.

Mr. Pettit stated that he thinks the resolution is fine as it is written.

Mr. Dehnert questioned the need to do a resolution since some board members indicated they did not feel the legislators read or act on them. Mrs. Heine replied that she believes the goal is to have many districts act on this and everyone send the same resolution in hopes that there would be strength in numbers.

Mr. Dehnert asked if this is the first time we had done a resolution such as this and Mrs. Fern replied that the Board had passed the same resolution this time last year. Mr. DiBello stated that there is a state-wide initiative looking into this now so hopefully something good will come about this time around.

A. Administration recommends approval for 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.
RESOLUTION 2015-05

RESOLUTION URGING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ESTABLISH A NEW FUNDING FORMULA FOR BASIC EDUCATION

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania’s more than 1.8 million public school students deserve the highest quality education; and

WHEREAS, the state’s contribution in funding public education as a percentage of basic instructional expenses has declined from over 50% during the mid 1970’s, to less than 35% today; and, on average, other states contribute 44% of total education funding, with Pennsylvania ranking 42 among the 50 states in the amount of state subsidies allocated to support elementary and secondary education and ranks 8th in reliance on local taxes; and

WHEREAS, as the state’s share of K-12 education funding decreases while the number of state and federal mandates for public schools steadily increases each year, additional burden is placed on local taxpayers to make up the difference to ensure that our students’ education is not jeopardized; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, basic education funding has been distributed without the benefit of a funding formula, with the lack of a reliable, fair and transparent funding formula resulting in great disparities in how state education funds are distributed to school districts; and

WHEREAS, these inequities effectively harm the ability of school districts to adequately and fairly provide the resources for the different needs of their students, especially those in poverty, those with disabilities, English language learners and other students; and

WHEREAS, the Spring-Ford Area School District supports the development of a system of public school financing that addresses the needs of school districts and students, and establishes a school funding formula that is equitable, adequate, comprehensive and consistent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Spring-Ford Area School District urges the General Assembly to reinvest its interest in the support of public schools by taking legislative action to establish a formula that is predictable and addresses adequacy and equity for all school districts; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Spring-Ford Area School District will encourage others, including parents, students and district taxpayers, to contact the Pennsylvania General Assembly to convey the importance of establishing a fair and equitable public school funding formula; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution submitted to the elected senators and representatives of the Spring-Ford Area School District in the General Assembly, and to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Adopted this 26th day of January, 2015

______________________________  ________________________________
Diane M. Fern                  Mark P. Dehnert
School Board Secretary         School Board President

(seal)
PRESS RELEASES/MEDIA COVERAGE:

November
- Veterans Day 2015 *(media coverage)*
- Great Valley Nature Center Joins SFASD Classrooms *(media coverage pending)*
- SFASD Welcomes Irish Students
- SFASD SPP Rating *(media coverage)*

December
- SFAHS Opens Café
- Spring-Ford Board Reorganization (media coverage)
- SFAHS Student Selected for NAfME
- SFAHS Supports Spring-Ford Rotary (media coverage)
- SFASD Receives 5th Annual AP Award (media coverage)
- Spring City Featured in Hybrid Learning Report (media coverage)
- SFASD Students to Attend FBLA Conference

January
- SFASD Hosts Good Choices Parent Workshop (media coverage)
- Spring-Ford Recognizes Board Recognition Month
- SNAP Prom Dress Boutique (media coverage)
- Spring-Ford Education Foundation 5K Run/Walk
- SFASD Hosts Inter-County Band (media coverage)
- SFASD Celebrates School Counselor Week
- SFASD Nominates Wegmans for Business Award
- SFASD Hosts Career Month (media coverage)

February
- SFMA Fashion Show Fundraiser (media coverage)
- 9th Grade Center Mural (media coverage)
- SNAP Magic Event (media coverage)
- SFASD Twitter Receives Verification Status

UPCOMING PROJECTS:
Welcome to Spring-Ford, new family welcome packet  
Spring-Ford Scoop Staff Newsletter - Monthly  
Community Survey – March/April

SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATES:
**Twitter:**
- Average of 84.2K impressions since November 2014
- Average 14.1% engagement rate
- 823 link clicks

**Facebook:**
- 2,583 likes, up 8.6% from September 2014
- 102,182 reached
- 90,988 reached
Ram County TV 2014- 2015

Spotlight Videos

1. 10 Amendments of the Constitution
2. Brooke’s Food Drive
3. Environmental Lesson
4. Preparing for the Spring-Ford 5K
5. Primary Source Café
6. Reach Out and Read
7. SF High School – Top 500 by Newsweek
8. SF Instructional Coaches
9. SF Arboretum
10. Spring-Ford Holiday Cheer
11. Veterans Day

Tech Tip Video

Google
1. Sign in and setup Google
2. How to use Google Docs
3. How to create Google Docs
4. Uploading to Google
5. Google Homepages

School Fusion
1. How to Create Folders in Fusion
2. How to add Files in Fusion
3. How to Register for Fusion
4. How to Access Recent Activity

Strand Lighting Board
1. Effects
2. Cue and Naming Productions
3. Overview
4. Powering Off Board
5. Powering On Board
6. Questions
7. Saving and Naming Productions
8. Total Wash/New Looks
Destiny
1. How to use Destiny

Television Shows
1. Supe’s On
2. On Board
3. Lights Camera Read
4. Student Central
5. Hot Topics of Health
6. Parent Central
7. Ram Kitchen
8. Game Time
9. Ram Country
10. The Gridiron
11. Body Metrix

Monthly Board Meeting
1. Work Session
2. Board Meeting

Special Programs
1. Winter Choral Concert
2. Winter Band Concert
3. Homecoming Parade
4. US Army Marching Band Presentation
5. Graduation
6. Dancing with the Stars

Special Tapings
1. SNAP Intros
2. PVAAS Training for Teachers
3. Standards Align System Video for Web Site
4. Spring City Hybrid Learning Testimonials
5. 8th Grade Orientation Video
6. PA State Athletic Association Yearly Awards Video
7. SNAP Post Prom
8. Convocation Videos

Classroom Lessons for Teachers
1. High School English Lesson – Jaime La Forgia
2. 7th Grade English – Jaime La Forgia
3. Brooke 2nd Grade – Wendy Taylor

Sporting Events

Football
1. Boyertown
2. Upper Perk
3. PJP

Boys Soccer
1. Boyertown
2. Pottsgrove

Girls Soccer
1. OJR

Volleyball
1. PJP
2. Avon grove
3. West Chester Rustin

Girls Basketball
1. Perk Valley
2. Boyertown

Boys Basketball
1. Boyertown
2. Pottstown
3. Pottsgrove
4. Methacton
5. Frankford

Swimming
1. Phoenixville

Wrestling
1. Methacton
2. Boyertown