

On February 23, 2015 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Willard D. Cromley, Bernard F. Pettit and Kelly J. Spletzer

Region II: Dawn R. Heine, Clinton L. Jackson and Todd R. Wolf

Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi and Thomas J. DiBello

Presiding Officer: Mark P. Dehnert

Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin

Business Manager: Timothy Anspach

Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

Student Reps.: Taylor M. Auman and Dana K. Ludgate

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Taylor invited everyone to join SNAP this Saturday, February 28th at 2 p.m., for the hilarious magic of Sam Sandler! Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Proceeds from this family-friendly event benefit SNAP's Post-Prom party. Post-prom is a very special student experience offering amazing activities and games following prom. Post-prom is free for students who attend the prom or Spring-Ford juniors or seniors who choose not to attend the prom, though the cost of keeping Spring-Ford students safe on prom night is priceless. To learn more or to make a donation to SNAP visit www.sfsnap.org.

Dana announced that thanks to Mother Nature, you have a few more weeks to get your ticket to Spring-Ford Music Association's rescheduled ROCK THE RUNWAY fashion show, now held on Saturday, March 7th. In addition to great spring fashion, the first 100 guests will receive a goodie bag filled with fantastic items. For more information you can visit www.springfordmusic.org.

Mr. Dehnert announced that the Board met in an executive session after last week's School Board meeting regarding personnel.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Mrs. Elaine Ruppert introduced Tameka Sadler who was named as a Finalist in the 2015 Achievement Scholarship Program. Mrs. Ruppert explained the process that Tameka went through in order to be considered for this honor.

Mr. Ciresi commented that he has had the honor to work with Tameka through the Community Theater. He stated that she definitely deserves this award as she is a great example to the younger kids of what Spring-Ford students should be. Mr. Ciresi offered his congratulations to Tameka.

Mrs. Elaine Ruppert introduced Hans Kumar, William Leisner and Alexander Tomarelli on being named as Finalists in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program. She spoke about the process these three students had to follow in order to advance to the finalist stage.

- B. Presentation to **Tameka N. Sadler** on being named as a "Finalist" in the 2015 National Achievement Scholarship Program.
- C. Presentation to **Hans Kumar, William George Leisner, and Alexander R. Tomarelli** on being named as "Finalists" in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Mr. Alexander Cifelli stated that it is a pleasure to be invited to the meeting tonight. He stated that this year the spring musical will be "Footloose" and he provided information on the show dates and times. Mr. Cifelli introduced the students and invited everyone to enjoy preview of the show.

Dr. Goodin stated that Mr. Cifelli is new to the district and has taken on the challenge of working with the students on this year's musical production. Dr. Goodin invited everyone to come out and see a great show.

- D. **Mr. Alexander Cifelli**, High School Spring Musical Director, and High School Students from this year's Spring Musical "*Footloose*" to perform a song/dance number from the show.

Dr. Goodin commented that last month was School Board Director Recognition Month. He stated that we had to postpone our recognition due to the weather. Dr. Goodin said that the district wants to honor the School Board for all they do for the students. He presented each Board Member with a few token gifts in appreciation of all of the time they volunteer on behalf of the students. Dr. Goodin introduced a video which was shown of students expressing their thanks to the Board.

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

Dr. Goodin commented that today is the first day of Engineer's Week. He spoke about some of the activities taking place throughout the district using STEM related activities with a focus on engineering. Dr. Goodin commented that our staff have fully embraced STEM activities. Dr. Goodin spoke about the increase occupations in the STEM fields. Dr. Goodin spoke of the changes that have taken place in curriculum in the area of STEM education. He reported on the Project Lead the Way Program and the partnership with local industry. Dr. Goodin stated that tonight in recognition of Engineer's Week, we have a presentation on Royersford's after-school STEM program.

Mr. Michael Spletzer thanked the parents and students from Royersford who came out tonight. Mr. Spletzer stated that they appreciate the opportunity and the Board's efforts in the area of STEM. He reported that the Royersford after-school program started a

year ago. Mr. Spletzer showed a PowerPoint that highlighted the need for STEM education, future job trends, salary scales for various occupations, and the need for STEM education at the elementary level. Mr. Spletzer spoke about the start of the program at Royersford and their mission statement. Mr. Spletzer explained the development of the program, the structure of the program including the baseline testing they do so that they can track the progress of the students and the weekly schedule the students follow. Mr. Spletzer provided a two year overview of the program. Mr. Spletzer invited the students to come forward and demonstrate the various parts of the afterschool program they have worked on. The students concluded their presentation by singing the ABCs in German.

Alex Tomarelli explained how he became involved in the program and spoke about the benefits of the program as well as the rewards he has experienced working with the kids in the program. Haley Spletzer spoke about how the students involved of the program have advanced and grown. Andrea Weber reported on the educational component of the program both as a parent of a student in the program, as a teacher and also as an advisor to the program. Another parent of two students involved in the program spoke about the rewarding experiences her children have had. Cole a student from Royersford shared why science is important to him. Janelle, also a student from Royersford spoke about learning how to speak German and the importance of speaking different languages.

Mr. DiBello commented that he has been a major proponent for pushing STEM since he has been on the Board. He said he agrees with the concept and he feels we need an aspect of this throughout the district. Mr. DiBello stated that there needs to be a curriculum built that helps kids continue down this tract until they get to high school. Mr. DiBello said he would like to see this go a step forward and see Spring-Ford look at STEAM as we have students who will want to focus and steer their careers towards the arts. Mr. DiBello stated that he feels the district needs to be a holistic educational environment. He cautioned that finances were and issue and needed to be considered.

Mr. Spletzer stated that he appreciates the board pushing for STEM but felt that STEAM clouds the issue. Mr. Spletzer felt that students should be clearly advised that careers in the arts would not have the same financial return as those in the STEM field.

Mr. Ciresi strongly objected to Mr. Spletzer's comments about the arts. He stated that he is a huge fan of STEM education but wanted to stress the importance of the arts in his life. He stated that we need to focus on a well-rounded student. Mr. Ciresi stated that the arts are a central part of life and he felt that Europe kills the United States in that their students are well-versed in the arts. Mr. Ciresi commented that from the arts comes scientists and every great scientist has a background in art. Mr. Ciresi commented that the district has the obligation to educate the whole child and arts are just as important as athletics and science. Mr. Spletzer said he agrees with Mr. Ciresi and commented that he is an artist himself. He stated that if the district has limited resources then they need to give the kids what will give them the best bang for their buck. Mr. Spletzer spoke about the athletic program and said that it is a great program but he would like to ask if any kid has ever gone on from the program to play professional ball so the chances of a student making a good living in this area are slim to none. Mr. Spletzer stated that the same thing goes for the arts and theater and he questioned how many of our students have gone on to perform on Broadway or in the Philadelphia Orchestra. Mr. Spletzer commented that if a

student were to get a degree in engineering then they will be able to get a good job and provide for their family.

Mr. DiBello stated that he hears what Mr. Spletzer is saying and does not want to go down that road. He commented that he is a huge proponent of the STEM initiative but it takes time to develop and it is a large investment. He spoke about the Hybrid Learning initiative and that it has been a huge success thus far. Mr. DiBello said he would like to see aspects of Hybrid Learning moved forward in the district as well.

Alex Tomarelli commented that he believes that everyone is in agreement that STEM is a very important part of the future of education. He added that he feels it is very easy to focus on things such as sports and arts but a lot harder to focus on things such as STEM.

Mr. Jackson stated that we talked about a broad brush of topics tonight but we need to start at the very beginning and from there it can grow. He commented that it all goes back to dollars. The current STEM Program must grow but it becomes problematic when you try to do too much too quick. Mr. Jackson stated that he supports this but we need to take time to move this forward.

Mr. Dehnert commented that we have a lot of initiatives in the district and we need to take a step back to see where we want to get to, develop an overall strategy for where we want to be and figure out how we will get there.

Dr. Goodin reminded the Board that the goal is to provide a well-rounded educational opportunity for our students. Dr. Goodin commented that we have a wide variety of interests among our students and he thinks we do a good job with this. Dr. Goodin stated that the focus of the Curriculum Committee has been to create a variety of opportunities for our students, not just those that are STEM related.

Mr. Spletzer offered the assistance of himself and those involved in the program to help with any discussions taking place about initiating this type of program at the elementary level. Mr. Dehnert stated that we need to involve stakeholders in this process.

Mr. DiBello stated that we need to look at all of this and continue to move forward by getting aggressive again, expand and roll out programs.

Mr. Dehnert commented that one of the great things about STEM training is that it goes in more fields than technology. He added that STEM teaches math and science and critical thinking which is needed in any profession you do.

- A. In recognition of Engineers Week, **Mr. Michael Spletzer**, **Ms. Andrea Weber**, Parents, **Mr. Alexander Tomarelli**, High School Student, and Royersford Elementary Students, to present on the "STEM in Practice" after-school program at Royersford Elementary School.

III. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum/Technology Dawn Heine 1st Tues. 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Heine reported that the Curriculum/Technology Committee met on February 3, 2015. The first topic discussed was modernized learning. Mrs. Heine announced that this initiative is officially in pilot mode. She added that there are a total of four deployment meetings

scheduled. Two of those meetings have taken place thus far. The meetings require the attendance of parents and students. The initial parent feedback on the launch of this initiative has been very positive. Mrs. Heine expressed appreciation to Mr. Reynolds and his team for preparing and learning four different devices in a short period of time. Mrs. Heine stated that all classes in this pilot are STEM classes. The committee next discussed SMART Classrooms. She stated that 80 of 110 rooms have been completed. Once the install is complete teachers are given a brief how-to session. The question on how to start the process earlier next year was raised and after some discussion and reassurance that this budget line item would not be removed, Mr. Reynolds agreed that he and his staff could be ready to go once the budget is approved. The committee viewed a video that was produced by Spring-Ford staff and starred one of the instructional coaches. The video was made to assist teachers with creating and utilizing text dependent questions. This method encourages small group collaboration and larger discussion to complete the lesson. A concern over the age of sociology books was brought the Curriculum and Instruction Department. These books were further down on the schedule for replacement but may need to be reevaluated. The Committee expressed concern that they do not want to make fluid changes to the review cycle based on requests as there are many requests made and needs exist. The Committee discussed the Advanced Placement US History course which is up for review by the College Board. Mrs. Heine reported that the current curriculum does not align with the AP test which creates a gap. Mrs. Heine added that the book being utilized will not fit the needs when the Spring-Ford course is realigned to the College Board standards. No book purchase is currently in the 2015-2016 CIA budget. Discussion regarding books and their utilization in the classroom. More often than not, the textbook purchases are transitioning to the Hybrid model where there is a class set purchased and the online book is for student home use. The Curriculum Department will review these two book needs and determine if they should be added to the budget for 2015 or kept in the current review cycle.

Mr. DiBello commented that he went to one of the deployment meetings and witnessed first-hand the parents and kids excitement regarding the Modernized Learning Concept. He stated that it was great to see the excitement around this.

Community Relations

Todd Wolf

3rd Mon. 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Wolf reported that the Community Relations Committee met on February 17, 2015 with an agenda slated to review SNAP finances, update/rewrite resolution 2015-05, a community engagement consultant update, new branding pieces and an RCTV update. Mr. Wolf stated that as per the request made by the board, relating to Mr. Ciresi's suggestion that the Board give \$10,000 to SNAP to help with the issues created by a budget shortfall, the committee met with SNAP representatives to discuss their financial situation. Mr. Wolf gave an overview of the SNAP organization, the service they provide and their purpose. Mr. Wolf reported that the post-prom event this year will take place on April 25th and listed the remaining fundraising events planned for this year. The SNAP representatives that were present for the committee meeting expressed concerns over their \$10,000 shortfall and the consequences of not having enough money and volunteers to hold the post-prom party. The representatives reported that the post-prom party being held this year is financed from the funds raised last year while revenues being generated this year will fund next year's event. The representatives felt that the shortfall this year was due to the fact that they did not hold the Dancing with the Stars fundraiser last year. Mr. Wolf reported that he had expressed his concerns over the school district setting a precedent of subsidizing a community funded event as there are

many other groups competing for donated dollars and volunteers. Mr. Wolf reported that Mr. DiBello strongly felt that that SNAP like many other Spring-Ford programs is dying on the vine and if refused the donation SNAP will not be able to continue to provide this spectacular free post-prom event. Mr. Wolf reported that several suggestions for resolution were discussed which included the district subsidizing the event, the district loaning the funds to get them through the hardship, using funds that were raised this year for next year's event on 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 and creating and implementing additional fund-raising means and methods. Mr. Wolf reported that the SNAP review took up most of the allotted meeting time. Mr. Wolf advised the Board that financial and historical information has been provided to everyone in order to determine a solution. Mr. Wolf reported that second on the agenda was the revision of resolution 2015-05 and outlining the upcoming town hall event. The committee recommended submitting the resolution as-is and making plans to invite state representatives to an upcoming board meeting. The third thing on the agenda was the community engagement consultant update. He commented that Erin Crew submitted a document highlighting press releases, media coverage, upcoming projects, and social media updates. Mr. Wolf thanked Ms. Crew for what she brings to Spring-Ford in her capacity as the community engagement consultant. The next agenda item was new branding pieces and Ms. Crew and Mr. Bonetz briefly discussed the purchase of a branded Spring-Ford 8x8 backdrop to stage media presentations. The committee did not get to the final agenda item which was the RCTV update but instead Mr. Bonetz provided Mr. Wolf with a tour of the broadcasting studio. Mr. Wolf stated that he was impressed with the experience.

Mr. Ciresi stated that he is proud to say that he has been part of SNAP since they began here in the district and he will continue to be part of it until his son graduates and beyond. He spoke of the countless hours the volunteers put in. Mr. Ciresi asked the Board to support giving \$10,000 to SNAP and invited the other Board Members who have never attended the post-prom event to come out, give their time and see this event firsthand.

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to move forward with giving \$10,000 to SNAP and Mr. DiBello seconded it.

The Board entered into a lengthy discussion on the reasons for the shortage and the way the SNAP Organization budgets the funds year to year. It was suggested to take the discussion to the Finance Committee. Concerns were raised over agreeing to give the funds to SNAP as there are a lot of organizations in the district that do a great job and the district could be going down a slippery slope by doing this. The option of lending the money to SNAP with the promise of them paying it back was raised. Another option of charging students to attend was raised. Both of these options were not favorably received.

Mr. Tom Jarjisian, SNAP Treasurer, came forward and spoke about the decision made last year not to hold the Dancing With the Stars fundraiser. He stated that a lot of time and effort goes into that event and last year they tried to give people the year off but then found that they were not able to make up the shortage. He also spoke about the lack of volunteers last year. Mr. Jarjisian stated that they plan on trying other things in the future to prevent this from happening again and that possibly they will have to charge everyone a \$5.00 fee. He commented that right now they are asking for help.

Mrs. Colleen Zasowski, resident, stated that she has a son who graduated in 2013 and 3 daughters in elementary school. She commented that she has a background in counseling and cautioned that if you lose the student's interest in attending this event at this time you will not get them back. She spoke about the risk of students getting hurt or even worse losing them on this dreadful night. Mrs. Zasowski expressed appreciation to the SNAP Committee on their efforts.

Dana Ludgate, Student Representative, stated that there is a paradox that goes along with solving a problem and SNAP is a great example of that. She added that before SNAP there were kids that went out and partied after prom and they were getting into trouble and SNAP eradicated this by giving students something else to do. Dana stated that the community then felt that there was not a need for SNAP since students were no longer getting in trouble but that is because SNAP exists. Dana commented that it amazes her that people do not think this is a big deal but as a teenager in high school this is a big deal to them and she stated that if the Board does not help SNAP now then problems will only get worse.

Mr. Wolf stated that no one is arguing that point but the concern is over making sure the program is sustainable. He added the solution must be sustainable so that the problem does not happen again. Mr. Wolf commented that he is not saying that he does not support this.

Taylor Auman, Student Representative, questioned if Mr. Wolf's concern was perpetuating a precedent for every year to follow and Mr. Wolf stated that this is a slight concern but his real concern is the moral hazard. He explained that if you cover something and you are already having a problem finding volunteers and funding this thing then it just exasperates the problem. Taylor asked if this is the first time SNAP has asked for any money and the reply was yes. He asked about the timeframe the board has to work within to decide how to delineate the funds to be provided to SNAP whether they come from the Board or the community.

Mr. DiBello responded that we have about a month as all of the ordering and scheduling is underway. Mr. DiBello stated that he agrees with Mr. Wolf that the Board is not there as a safety net and they are where they are this year and we need to help by getting behind this event this year.

Mr. Shawn Riordan, Limerick, stated that he has 2 children in the district. He commented that the SNAP Committee learned from past experience and that is why they are doing Dancing With the Stars this year. He added that if they get a poor turnout at the post-prom then it will affect future years as word of mouth travels quickly and the next year is when you will see the impact. Mr. Riordan commented that we do not want to see kids down the road get into the problems that could occur if they were not going to the after prom party.

Mrs. Spletzer commented that she is in favor of the one-time donation to keep SNAP underway. She stated that the way she looks at this is that the school district spends a lot of money on security for our physical assets, our students, our buildings. Mrs. Spletzer stated that she would even advocate that the Board make a sizeable donation going forward as these are our children and our community.

Mr. Wolf commented that this is a valid point but if you are going to do this then you have to make it a part of the cost of doing the prom. He stated that you cannot just write a check and think that you are solving the problem. Mr. Wolf added that for this to be sustainable then either the school is going to take it on as a worthy project and a cost or if this is going to be a community funded event then we need to find a more reliable way to fund it.

Mrs. Julie Mullin, Upper Providence Township, stated that with regards to adding to the cost of the prom, the way the funds are raised for the prom is that the junior class is fundraising for this year's prom. She commented that if you are a senior who busted their hump to raise funds for the class ahead of you to have a good prom then you luck out. Mrs. Mullin added that if you are the head of a class that is struggling, prom tickets this year are \$70.00 per head. She cautioned that if you add much more to the cost in order to attend SNAP that night then you are going to lose kids. She begged the Board to do this one-time donation.

The motion passed 9-0.

The Board approved a donation of \$10,000.00 to SNAP.

Extracurricular Tom DiBello 2nd Mon. 6:00 p.m.

Mr. DiBello tabled his report and commented that Alexander Cifelli attended the Extracurricular Committee meeting. Mr. DiBello stated that he had asked the group to come out tonight and perform because the work that Mr. Cifelli is doing with the theater program and the excitement he brings is tremendous. Mr. DiBello commented that he wanted to highlight this as Mr. Cifelli has been a great addition to the district and tonight's performance is very telling of what is to come.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin reported that the district will be represented on March 11th at the Spring-Ford Chamber of Commerce Regional Business to Business Expo taking place at Pope John Paul High School. He invited everyone to stop by, support the Chamber of Commerce and see the different businesses that will be represented here. Dr. Goodin announced that two of the district's administrators have gone on to earn their doctoral degrees. He reported that Mr. Patrick Nugent had successfully defended his dissertation last Friday and Mrs. Kathleen Kotch successfully defended her dissertation last month. He congratulated both Dr. Nugent and Dr. Kotch on earning their doctoral degrees.

Solicitor's Report Mark Fitzgerald

There was no report.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. The Board approved the January 20, 2015 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A1)**

B. The Board approved the January 28, 2015 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A2)**

V. PERSONNEL

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approved Items A-D and Mr. Wolf seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. Resignations

1. **Scott A. Burr**, Elementary Teacher, Upper Providence Elementary School.
Effective: February 3, 2015.
2. **Katherine L. Helm**, Part-time (.5) Special Education Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center.
Change of resignation date from March 13, 2015 to February 13, 2015.

B. Leaves of Absence

1. **Danielle E. Cushman**, Instructional Assistant, Limerick Elementary School; for an unpaid leave of absence per Board Policy. Effective: May 1, 2015 through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.
2. **Nina F. Wickersham**, Elementary Teacher, Brooke Elementary School; for an extension of child-rearing leave of absence per the Professional Agreement. Effective: March 31, 2015 through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

C. Support Staff Employees

1. **Joan E. Bickley**, Clerical Assistant, Senior High School; replacing Maureen A. Serago who retired. Compensation will be set at \$15.00/hour per the Secretarial Plan. Effective: February 17, 2015.
 2. **Brandy M. Kershaw**, Secretary, Senior High School; replacing Betty J. Ryan who retired. Compensation will be set at \$16.00/hour per the Secretarial Plan. Effective: February 17, 2015.
 3. **Leigh-Ann C. Simms**, Instructional Assistant, 5/6th Grade Center; replacing Jennifer D. Wurster who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: February 17, 2015.
- D. The individual listed below has completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as a temporary professional employee and is, therefore, approved for tenure status:

Suzanne DeISordo ESL Teacher 8th Grade Center

VI. FINANCE

Mrs. Heine asked that Item K be separated.

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-J and Mr. Jackson seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

***NEW ADDITIONS SINCE THE WORK SESSION**

- 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

<u>January</u>	
Check No. 156264 – 156306	\$ 203,724.08
<u>February</u>	
Check No. 156307 – 156470	\$1,408,104.25
ACH 141500366 – 141500377	\$ 655.98
 2. Athletic Fund

<u>January</u>	
Check No. 307688 – 307819	\$ 30,997.32
 3. *Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting

<u>*February</u>	
*Check No. 156471 – 156508	\$ 198,127.83
 4. *Board Checks held for approval

<u>*February</u>	
*Check No. 156509 – 156537	\$ 110,925.80
*ACH 141500378 – 141500408	\$ 11,906.54
- C. The Board approved the following **independent contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Associations, the Home and School Leagues, the Parent Teacher Associations and the Parent Teacher Organizations:
1. **Musicopia – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide a residency program for students at Spring City Elementary which would include a kick-off assembly, a grade level workshop once a week for five to six weeks and conclude with a final assembly where students perform alongside the ensemble. There is no cost to the district for this residency program as all funds are being paid by the Bard Foundation through Musicopia.
- *New Independent Contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Association:
2. **Benmor Enterprises – Bushkill, PA.** Provide an assembly program entitled "Rocks, Minerals and Fossil Show" along with two dig workshops for third grade students at Brooke Elementary School. Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$525.00.

3. **Tails of the Tundra Siberian Husky Rescue – Horsham, PA.** Provide an informational assembly at Limerick Elementary on the Siberian Husky and Canine Powered Sports such as the Iditarod. This assembly is being held in conjunction with the IditaREAD Reading Incentive Program. There is no cost to the district.

D. The Board approved the following independent contracts:

1. **Dr. Jim Cianciulli – Jeffersonville, PA.** Conduct a Psychodiagnostic Evaluation and provide an educational report for a special needs student. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$750.00.
2. **The Timothy School – Berwyn, PA.** Provide educational and related services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 84 days at a rate of \$351.39 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$29,516.76.
3. **Ian Ash, Music Therapy Resources, LLC – Bryn Mawr, PA.** Provide music therapy for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided at a rate of \$75.00 per hour for 46 hours. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,450.00.
4. **Katherine Helm – Blue Bell, PA.** Provide specialized reading instruction for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 125 hours at a rate of \$30.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,750.00.
5. **Steven Courtney, Manheim, PA.** Provide an assembly for students at Upper Providence Elementary entitled “Kindness Matters”. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Assembly Account and shall not exceed \$1,500.00.

***New Independent Contract**

6. **PSA Healthcare – Elkins Park, PA.** Provide Nursing Services for the remainder of the school year and for the Extended School Year Program for a student in the multiple disabilities class as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 8 hours per day, 5 days per week at a rate of \$45.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$39,600.00.

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

JANUARY

Check No. 12037 – 12053

\$ 214,319.89

***New Finance**

F. The following Treasurers’ Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market – January 2015
- PSDLAF – January 2015
- PSDMAX – January 2015
- Checking Account – January 2015

- PLGIT Account – January 2015
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule – January 2015
- Payroll Account – January 2015
- Tax Account – January 2015

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – January 2015
- 7th Grade Activity – January 2015
- 8th Grade Activity – January 2015
- High School Activity – January 2015
- Athletic Account – January 2015

Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – January 2015

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – January 2015
- Debt Service Fund – January 2015
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – January 2015

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – January 2015
- Cafeteria Checking Account – January 2015
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – January 2015
- Investment Account – January 2015

- G. The Board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **FEBRUARY** in connection with the **CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT – Fund 32:**

*CDW Government Inc.	Technology-District-wide (3 Invs)\$	4,089.78
*Delco Solutions LLC	Projector/Smartboard Upgrade	
	District-wide	\$ 71,157.56
*Spring-Ford ASD	Apple Inc.-Technology	
	District-wide	\$ 5,060.00
	TOTAL	\$ 80,307.34

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

Permits No. 5183 – 5210

- I. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2014-2015 school year:

Royersford Borough No. 115 – 116

- J. The Board approved the following **additions/deletions** to the per capita tax for the 2014-2015 school year:

Royersford Borough Additions No. 145 – 147
Upper Providence Deletions No. 085 – 781

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item K and Mr. Ciresi seconded it.

Mrs. Heine questioned if any of these appointments had gone to the county as already approved. Mr. Anspach reported that one had. Mrs. Heine asked how that happened if the Board had not yet approved it. Mrs. Heine expressed concern that things were being done in different ways for the different tax collectors and that there needed to be consistency. Mr. Anspach stated that this is what is being done now by listing all of the tax collectors in this motion. Mrs. Heine asked what the repercussions would have been for that one that went to county if the Board did not approved this and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that it would be null and void. Mr. Fitzgerald explained that it is a two-fold process and the tax collector makes the recommendation for the deputy tax collector but the School Board must then approve the individual. Mr. Fitzgerald said if the Board did not approve the individual then it would be null and void.

The motion passed 9-0.

- K. The Board approved the appointment of the following Deputy Tax Collectors per Act 1674 of 2014. Tax Collectors are now required to appoint a deputy tax collector who "shall collect and settle taxes during any incapacitation of the tax collector".

Tax Collector - Municipality

Julie Mullin - Upper Providence
Ryan Wall – Limerick
Mary Rex – Spring City
Sharon Romer – Royersford

Appointed Deputy Tax Collector

Ryan Wall
Julie Mullin
Susan Lusch
Lauren Romer

VII. PROPERTY

Mr. Ciresi asked that Item B be separated.

Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board approved the continuation of the contract for district-wide cleaning services for year three of a three-year contract with Interstate Maintenance Corporation of Horsham, PA. The total cost of contract #1 is \$732,547.54 beginning June 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016. Contract #2 and Contract #3 will be billed at \$24.50 per hour per employee. Funding will come from the 2015/2016 Maintenance Budget.

Mrs. Spletzer made a motion to approve Item B and Mr. Wolf seconded it. The motion passed 7-2 with Mr. Ciresi and Mrs. Heine voting no.

- B. The Board gave approval for Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates, of Mechanicsburg, PA to complete an updated full district-wide comprehensive feasibility study with enrollment projections and overviews of the district for space needed for a total cost of \$29,000.00. Additional work will be billed on a time and material basis at the Project Architect rate of \$145.00 per hour, not to exceed \$10,000.00. Funding will come from the 2014-2015 Maintenance Budget

VIII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

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

- A. The Board approved the 2015 Summer String Lesson Program to be held at the 5/6 Grade Center for students in grades 4-12. The program will run 4 days a week for 5 weeks, in conjunction with the district's summer school programs, Monday, June 22 through Thursday, July 23, 2015. Weekly lessons will be offered to students on a tuition basis, there will be no cost to the school district. The cost will be \$20.00 per half-hour private lesson. All tuition money that is collected will be submitted to the Business Office and the teachers will be paid at the current summer school salary rate of \$30.00/hour plus benefits.
- B. The Board approved the 2015 Extended School Year (ESY) Program and positions identified below to be held at the 5/6th Grade Center and possibly one Elementary Building. The program will run Monday through Thursday from June 25, 2015 to July 30, 2015 from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM.
 - 1. Twenty-one (21) Special Education Teachers at a rate of \$30.00/hour.
 - 2. Seven (7) Special Education Teachers to work as tutors at a rate of \$30.00/hour.
 - 3. Four (4) Speech Therapists at a rate of \$30.00/hour.
 - 4. Five (5) Teachers to work as WILSON Tutors for individual students as per the students' ESY IEPs at the rate of \$30.00/hour.
 - 5. Forty-five (45) Instructional Assistants at a rate of \$16.36/hour.
 - 6. One (1) Certified School Nurse or Registered Nurse to work 5 hours per day at a rate of \$30.00/hour.

New Programming and Curriculum

- C. The Board approved the Cool School Program. This program will be open to all elementary students. Approximately 40 teachers will instruct the courses and their reimbursement will be at the contract established rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. A stipend of \$5,000.00 will be paid to **Kristin A. Landis** as the Coordinator of the Cool School Program. There will be no cost to the district as all expenses will be covered by the student tuition fees.
- D. The Board approved the **Summer Instrumental Band Camp** for grades 4-6 under the direction of **Mr. James Westlake**, to be held at the 9th Grade Center. The program will run from Monday, June 29 through Thursday, July 2, 2015 concluding with a mid-day concert on Thursday July 2nd that is open to parents and guests. Tuition will be set at \$75.00 per student to cover staffing and building usage costs as per district costs and will be due after May 1, 2015, the deadline for determining if we have a sufficient amount of interest in the program. If there is not enough interest in the Band Camp, the traditional lesson based 5 week summer program (similar to the Strings Lesson Program) will be run.

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve Items A-F and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

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

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- B. **Bruce Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations & Facilities, and **Barry Ziegler**, Supervisor of Planning, Operations & Facilities, to attend the "*Asbestos Certification/Recertification Courses*" in New Cumberland, PA on April 2, 2015. The total cost of this conference is \$400.00 (registration) from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- C. **Doug Landis**, Teacher, to attend "*LEWES AP European History Summer Institute*" from July 21, 2015 through July 24, 2015. The total cost for this conference is \$1,300.00 (registration, mileage, meals) from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- D. **Doug Weidner**, Teacher, to attend "*Intellectual Need in the Math Classroom*" at the MCIU on April 29, 2015. The total cost for this workshop is \$323.96 (registration, mileage, meals and a one day substitute) from the 580 and substitute accounts.

5TH/6TH GRADE CENTER

- E. **Dana Rosenblum**, Teacher, to attend "*Using Assistive Technology to Support Students Through the Writing Process*" at the MCIU in the afternoon of March 19, 2015. The total cost for this workshop is \$75.00 for a half-day substitute from the substitute account.

DISTRICT-WIDE

- F. **Dr. Keith Floyd**, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, **Kimberly Camilleri** and **Adam Swavely**, Teachers, to attend the "*Digital Content and Curriculum Creation Workshop*" at the String Theory Schools in Philadelphia, PA on March 3, 2015. The total cost for this workshop is \$300.00 (two substitutes for one day) to be paid from the Curriculum and Instruction Budget.

NEW CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP

- G. **James Westlake**, Teacher, to attend the "*Conn-Selmer Institute*" in Elkhart, Indiana from Sunday, March 8 through Tuesday, March 10, 2015. The total cost to the district is \$300.00 for a substitute for two days. All other fees for Mr. Westlake are being paid by Conn-Selmer, Inc.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board granted approval for the establishment of an electronic LED sign at Evans Elementary School. Funds for this project will come from fundraising efforts by the Evans Home and School Association during the 2015-2016 school year or until the appropriate amount is raised. The LED sign will replace the existing sign and will be placed at the same main entrance location.

New Other Business

Mr. Dehnert noted Item B and thanked the Oaks Parent Teacher Association.

Mr. Pettit acknowledged all of the Home and School Associations for all of their efforts and their support of the district.

Mr. Cromley asked the officers of the Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association who were present in the audience to please stand up so that they could be acknowledged for all of their efforts.

- B. Administration acknowledges the acceptance of the donation of \$3,987.00 from the Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association to be used towards the purchase and installation of four (4) Shure Wireless Microphone Systems for the recently installed projector in the Cafetorium at Oaks Elementary.

XI. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve the resolution as mentioned in the Community Relations Committee report. Mr. Wolf confirmed it was Resolution 2015-05. Mrs. Heine restated the motion saying she would like to make a motion to approve Resolution 2015-05 as it stands.

Mr. Dehnert stated that it is hard for him to consider this as he is not sure of what the resolution says.

Mrs. Heine commented that this is the motion that was pushed back to the committee to make the decision on whether or not to send the letter as mentioned in Mr. Wolf's report to the legislators as well as invite them back to discuss the legislation at one of the Board's meetings.

Mr. DiBello asked that protocol be followed and stated that there was a motion and a second is needed prior to comments being made.

Mr. Ciresi seconded Mrs. Heine's motion.

Mr. Fitzgerald expressed concern over the resolution not being affixed to the agenda and the Board taking action on this. Mrs. Heine questioned the fact that it had been a previous motion on an agenda. Mr. Fitzgerald again stated that this would be a concern.

Mr. Dehnert questioned the rush to approve it this month and suggested it be put on the agenda for next month so that the Board has a chance to take another look at this. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he would simply like the resolution to be reflective of the minutes of the meeting.

Mr. DiBello asked what Mr. Fitzgerald's recommendation was and Mr. Fitzgerald stated that they should bring the motion back in March since the resolution was not attached and the public at large had not had the opportunity to see the motion. A motion is being brought up and the resolution is not there.

Mr. Pettit commented that he agrees with Mr. Fitzgerald and it is of no harm waiting until March to vote on this.

Mrs. Heine withdrew her motion and Mr. Ciresi withdrew the second.

Sharon Romer, Royersford, commented that Lauren Romer is her daughter and a 2009 graduate of Spring-Ford and 2013 graduate of Ursinus. She stated that Lauren is more than qualified to be the deputy tax collector if something were to happen to her. Mrs. Romer explained that there was a tax collector meeting at the beginning of November – December and they were told that effective immediately there needed to be a deputy tax collector. Mrs. Romer stated that no one else uses her program so that is why she chose her daughter. Mrs. Romer added that when they were told to settle in January they were told to bring their deputy papers with them so that is why she took the papers down prior to the board approval.

A member of the audience who did not identify herself asked when the calendar would be approved and Dr. Goodin replied that it would be on the March agenda.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

On January 20, 2015 the Work Session of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Willard D. Cromley and Bernard F. Pettit

Region II: Dawn R. Heine and Clinton L. Jackson

Region III: Thomas J. DiBello

Presiding Officer: Mark P. Dehnert

Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin

Business Manager: Timothy Anspach

Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

Student Reps.: Taylor M. Auman and Dana K. Ludgate

The following Board Members were absent: **Joseph P. Ciresi, Kelly J. Spletzer and Todd R. Wolf**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Fern announced that the Spring-Ford Middle School Band will host the 59th Annual Inter-County Junior High School Band Festival on Saturday, January 24, 2015 at 7:30 PM at Spring-Ford Area High School. Tickets for the concert are available in advance from any member of the Inter-County Band or at the door the evening of the concert. Cost of tickets are \$4 for adults and \$3 for students.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

II. ACTION ITEM

Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

- A. The Board gave approval for the High School Cheerleading Competition Squad and their two coaches to travel and stay overnight in Hershey, PA from Friday, January 23, 2015 to Saturday, January 24, 2015. The High School Cheerleading Competition Squad finished in 3rd place on Saturday, January 10, 2015 in the District One Competition and as a result qualified for the PIAA State Competition. Student-athletes will miss half a day of school on Friday, January 23, 2015 and will be responsible for all missed work. The total cost to the district shall not exceed \$2,000.00 and will be paid from the Athletic Budget.

III. PRESENTATION

Dr. Goodin presented the PowerPoint that was originally viewed at the Property Committee meeting on January 13th. He stated that the information presented was a culmination of 4 years of research. Dr. Goodin stated the reasons for the need for the expansion of the fitness center which was mainly due to the overcrowded conditions currently taking place in the facility. He provided the Board with 7 options for expanding the space. Dr. Goodin reviewed the proposed project goals and stated that we are at the point where direction from the Board is needed as to which option they would be in favor of moving forward with.

Dr. Goodin was questioned on whether Option 5 would meet the needs and if it would allow latitude for future years. Dr. Goodin stated that it would meet current and he believes future needs as our feasibility study indicated that a large influx of students was not anticipated. He followed up by saying that a definite answer on this was not possible and that at the next Property Committee meeting they would be discussing new housing developments that are planned in the district. Dr. Goodin was asked what the current capacity was for the fitness area and he replied 50 but that they try to keep the number of students between 30-45. A question was raised on the anticipated new capacity if the area is expanded using Option 5 and Dr. Goodin replied that the new capacity would be 85. He was asked if we were not sure of the actual growth of the district then how do we know a capacity of 85 is enough. Dr. Goodin replied that students use the facility as part of a schedule and that schedule would not have more than 85 students using the facility as part of their physical education class or athletic team training at any one time.

Dr. Roche was asked how many students are in there at one time for physical education classes and he replied 35. The next question asked was how many student utilize the wrestling room as opposed to the fitness side and the reply was that there are 36 members of the wrestling team. Dr. Roche clarified that physical education classes also use the wrestling room and that the room was not just used by the wrestling team.

The question was asked if new equipment would be needed as well and Mr. McDaniel replied that they would be getting additional free weights which would require additional space around the new machines.

Mr. Cooper was asked if the current utility systems would accommodate the expansion under Option 5 and the response was yes. He was asked if he knew what the annual operating cost would be if the Board voted for Option 7 and Mr. Cooper replied that he did not have those numbers but it would be safe to say it would be six figures. Mr. Cooper indicated that his office was looking for direction from the Board before they invested a lot of time into options that may not be considered.

Dr. Goodin was asked if the expansion would change any current programming and he replied that no curriculum thus far has been written for Option 7 and if the Board chose to move in that direction that we would want to design curriculum for that type of facility.

Mr. DiBello felt that a lot of time was spent focusing on the negative aspect of Option 7 so he wanted to highlight the positive. He spoke about other districts who are not as financially stable as Spring-Ford that were able to put this type of facility together. He spoke about how this type of facility would help those students who are interested in a career in the health field. Mr. DiBello stated that students could potentially graduate from high school being close to having their Associates Degree. Mr. DiBello felt that the educational value of the health and wellness facility needed to be discussed. He added that he had talked with the other Property Committee members and everyone felt strongly that it would be possible to develop a partnership with area industry to help the district build this facility for a lot less cost than what was presented tonight.

Mr. Dehnert felt that careers in the health field needed a curriculum that was heavy in math and science and a facility that includes a running track and lap pool would not accomplish this. He stated that he felt the \$8 million price being estimated would actually end up being much higher. Mr. Dehnert stated that he believes the district needs to redevelop our students to get those types of jobs through a strong STEM Program and strong math and science programs beginning at the kindergarten level. He also pointed out that the district only has 2 people who oversee curriculum and if they focus their resources on doing another type of program then that takes away from the more important things in education which is having strong academics and not strong athletics. He stated that this is the district's core mission.

Mr. Jackson stated that valid points have been made but it comes back to costs. He stated that the Board needs to give administration direction and questions that are able to be answered.

Mrs. Heine commented that she thought the point of this was for the Board to give direction and not send this back to the Property Committee where it has lived for the past 4 years.

Mr. Pettit stated that he feels the STEM Program, while it is very important, is not for all students and there are a lot of other occupations that do not rely on science and math so these should be fostered as well.

Mrs. Heine commented that she would rather the Board not be short-sighted and if there are other opportunities for the district to partner with businesses and hospitals to bring the cost down to be able to utilize a facility not only for our ourselves, our community and our potential partners then she feels we should explore this rather than just going with looking at a single option.

Mr. Jackson asked administration to tell the Board what is needed so they can advise on how to move forward. Dr. Goodin stated that the idea as presented was that there is a need for additional space to accommodate the students using the fitness facility. He added that this discussion has taken various turns and twists bringing us to the present discussion. Dr. Goodin said the original request was to provide more space in the current facility.

Mr. Jackson asked administration to look into Options 5 and 7 and Mr. Cromley stated that he would support that directive.

Mr. Dehnert asked the Board for further clarification on what exactly the Board wanted administration to research and bring back to them. Mr. Dehnert stated that the way he sees it is that we are looking at Option 5 which he believes he heard Dr. Goodin say will solve the original problem that started this process and Option 7 which addresses some unknown need that we are trying to define. He added that with Option 7 we do not have any problem we are trying to define or solve but we are trying to create a curriculum that does not exist for some concept which does not exist. Mr. Dehnert stated that expanding curriculum that centers around a health and wellness center is a big endeavor that is going to take years to come to fruition.

Mr. DiBello commented that both Options 5 and Options 7 solve the current perceived problem which is solely focused on our athletic teams. Mr. DiBello stated that Option 7 gives us the ability to solve the issue while looking forward down the road. We do not have to build everything out but the most important thing is getting the footprint done and figure out as we morph a strategy or vision on where we go with this. Mr. DiBello expressed his concern that the expansion would be done and then two years from now the board is hearing that it does not meet the needs of the district.

Mr. Dehnert stated that in 2007 the decision was made to expand the high school and he believes the capacity now is at 2400 students. Dr. Goodin confirmed this was correct. Mr. Dehnert stated that we are currently at 1800 students so we have plenty of room to grow. He added that we then have space for classrooms to expand and conduct any type of curriculum that would be part of Option 7. Dr. Goodin replied that we have room for the class sizes to grow which would increase your capacity but the actual classrooms are fixed.

Dr. Goodin reminded the Board that this has been talked about for 4 years and the original quest was that we needed more space in our fitness area. Dr. Goodin indicated that he spoke to Mr. McDaniel and recommended that we limit the number of students going into the fitness room as it is definitely overcrowded. Dr. Goodin stated that there is not a district in the state, a teacher or a coach who would not like to have an Option 7 on their campus. Dr. Goodin asked the Board for clear direction on what exactly they are supposed to look into next with regards to Option 5 and 7.

Mr. Jackson made a motion to move forward with the evaluation of Options 5 and 7 from a cost perspective, from a feasibility perspective, and from an overall integration into the high school. Mr. Jackson stated that he calls it programming and you sit down and determine how it is going to function.

Mr. Pettit stated that his only problem and concern is wondering whether we have a need for an indoor track and turf field on a second floor. He questioned if this was a health and wellness center or a training facility.

Mr. Dehnert stated that rather than throw out a motion he would like the Board to give some thought to exactly what the motion is and whether there are any costs associated with it such as the cost for a feasibility plan.

Dr. Goodin asked Mr. Cooper if he understood what was being requested. Mr. Cooper stated that he understood what was being requested and that the request was for him to bring back what the costs will be, how much it will cost to build the building, look at the feasibility and where Option 7 would fit, and how much it will cost to run Option 5 and Option 7. Mr. Cooper stated that it is not necessarily how much it will cost to build the building but the cost to maintain the building after it is built. Mr. Cooper added that we also have to look at the lifespan of the building or the expansion after it is constructed. Mr. Cooper stated that he will also bring back to the next Property Committee meeting what the cost would be for him to obtain the professional help he may need to do this type of project, estimates on how long it would take to complete this type of project and whether or not this type of project would be reimbursable by PDE. Dr. Goodin stated that the Business Office would be brought in on this discussion in order to look at the long range financing.

Mr. Dehnert commented that the direction is for Mr. Cooper to take a look at what it would take to come up with good estimates for both options and consult with Mr. Anspach. Mr. Dehnert asked if at the next Property Committee meeting Mr. Cooper could come back with that information and then it could be included in the February Board meeting.

Mr. Jackson stated that this is not a quick process and will not be done by the next Property Committee meeting as this is a major undertaking with many levels. He added that the stand alone building is a whole different animal to pursue.

Mr. Dehnert announced that the Board met in an Executive Session to discuss real estate.

- A. **Dr. David R. Goodin**, Superintendent of Schools, to present options for expanding the High School Fitness Room space.

IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**Student Rep. Report Taylor M. Auman/Dana Ludgate**

Taylor announced that students are in the middle of midterm exam testing. He added that testing will conclude tomorrow with period five and six exams. Taylor stated that students will resume normal class schedules on Thursday, the 22nd. He reminded everyone that registration for Advanced Placement Exams is underway and will be closing on Saturday, January 31st. He reported that the district is paying the cost of every student's first exam; subsequent costs are to be handled by the student and his or her family. The payment is due online at the time of registration through totalregistration.net. The cost of each exam is \$91.00. Taylor advised students that if they had any questions they can be directed to Mr. Rhodes, in the 10th Grade House Guidance Office. Taylor reported that the Miller-Keystone Blood Drive will be held Friday, February 6th in the High School Auxiliary Gymnasium of the 10-12 Grade Center. Taylor informed everyone that in order to donate blood, you must be a Spring-Ford student at least 17 years of age. He stated that anyone interested can go to www.GIVEaPINT.org to schedule their donation appointment. The code to sign up online is 7145. Registration can also be done during lunch on January 26, 27, or 28. He stated that in order to register students must have a valid photo ID. Taylor reported that another big event in the district right now is the Student Council's Pasta for Pennies Campaign. He added that this campaign takes place annually and money raised goes towards fighting childhood Leukemia. Taylor stated that students can contribute to this cause by donating spare change in the designated boxes in their English class. Taylor next reported that the semi-formal Winter Ball is scheduled for Saturday, February 7th from 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Tickets will be on sale during the week of January 26th to January 30th at all lunches. Tickets cost \$20.00 and can only be purchased by freshman and sophomores. Taylor advised students that in order to preorder their 2015 yearbook they can go online at www.yearbookforever.com and place an order before February 13th. Taylor shared with everyone his good news that he is officially a part of the University of Pennsylvania's Class of 2019. He stated that he will be attending the College of Arts and Sciences on a pre-med track with a possible major concentration in French Studies, Psychology, or Linguistics. The Board all offered their congratulations to Taylor on his acceptance to The University of Pennsylvania.

Mr. DiBello stated that he has had a bunch of parents ask him if other school districts let their students out ½ a day or is this just a Spring-Ford thing. Dr. Goodin replied that it is a common practice and Dr. Roche confirmed this had been his experience also.

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

Mr. Cromley reported that the WMCTC Joint Operating Committee met January 12th for the purpose of holding its reorganization meeting. The following board members were elected; Joseph Ciresi as the Chairperson, Patricia Grimm as the Vice Chairperson, Margie Gehlhaus as the Secretary and Dawn Heine as the Treasurer. Mr. Moritzen reported that the total enrollment is 502 which is down 3 students from last month. Spring-Ford's enrollment is at 81 for the AM and 97 for the PM for a total of 178 students which is down 2 students from last month. There was a report on the 9th Grade Program and the opportunities for students from all three sending school districts. Mr. Cromley reported that so far 3 current Spring-Ford 8th grade students have submitted applications to attend the WMCTC next year. The online registration has produced 64 completed applications with another 30 in the pipeline but not yet completed. There are also 105 applications that are in the process of approval. Mr. Cromley provided a listing of the most popular programs students were enrolling in. Mr. Cromley reported on recent events

that took place at the WMCTC such as a blood drive on December 5th, an open house for potential 9th graders on December 3rd which was very successful as 150 students visited on that evening, and a community dinner on January 12th with 78 people attending. Mr. Cromley reported that the Western Center is hosting the local Rotary Club for weekly luncheons. Mr. Cromley stated that on February 2nd the Western Center will be hosting a community dinner in celebration of Valentine's Day. Mr. Cromley reported that the JOC viewed formal presentations by the following curricular areas; Early Childhood Education, Environmental Design, a Skills USA student presentation on the competition recently attended, and an update on Technology. Mr. Cromley stated that they also saw an interesting presentation on modernized learning initiatives at the Western Center. There was a demonstration on the use of iPad technology in the classroom. There was a technology purchase agreement for the following equipment iPads, Apple televisions, as well as an upgrade to the wireless system in the building and a migration from the currently used system to Google Apps. The JOC addressed a number of conference requests. The JOC met in an executive session following the conclusion of the regular meeting to discuss personnel concerns.

Curriculum/Technology Dawn Heine

1st Tues. 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Heine reported that the Curriculum and Technology Committee met on January 6th and were provided with an overview of the various services provided by the Melmark School, a very specialized school that works to help children with multiple needs. The committee next received a Modernized Learning Update which included notification that all devices have been received and are being prepared for distribution. Mrs. Heine stated that the teachers are excited and are working closely with the curriculum team to integrate the technology into the classroom once distribution takes place. She reported that stake-holder meetings are scheduled and the first one occurred on January 7th. She added that the attendees included teachers, students, administrators, community members, board members and business professionals. Mrs. Heine next reported that Spring-Ford will be launching Google Apps for Education for students and staff members. The official launch will be in the Fall of 2015. Google accounts will be created for all staff members on 1/8/15 which will allow staff to login to Google and access a series of online tools for communication, collaboration and document storage. Mrs. Heine reported that the Technology Department has created a 10-year budget plan which allocates funds for future expenditures to avoid spikes in the budget. She added that the technology budget includes \$250,000 for classroom technology, \$86,000 for replacement network equipment and \$50,000 for replacement server equipment. Mrs. Heine reported that upon reviewing the technology budget there was discussion on the original surveillance project. She stated that Phases I & II had been completed. She added that Phases III & IV were estimated to be around \$384,000 but rather than go after this it was the committee's recommendation to take the \$93,000 that is in the Capital Reserve account and earmarked for surveillance and use that amount to install the cameras identified for Phases III & IV. Mrs. Heine stated that the additional video coverage would take place at the Flex School, the 8th Grade Center as well as the elementary schools as these areas are at risk. Mrs. Heine reported that the second class with Arcadia will be Introduction to Public Health and will be offered in 2015-16. She stated that the course is being developed by Arcadia. Mrs. Heine noted that on the agenda is a motion to purchase International Business textbooks and this will be a new course that will be offered next year. Mrs. Heine commented that the curriculum team has started to create a multi-year budget for the materials review cycle. She stated that by doing this costs for the items can be expensed over multi-years. She added that the two biggest items that benefit from this are the Reading/English Language Arts series for grades K-6 and the Math series for grades K-6. Mrs. Heine commented

that these items are needed. The initial quotes were for the Reading series to cost approximately \$1.4 million and the Math series to cost \$600,000. Mrs. Heine stated that with the materials review cycle the costs could be spread out over a 3-year period.

Mr. DiBello asked about the Arcadia course and whether this falls under Global Studies and Mrs. Heine confirmed that was correct. Mr. DiBello asked about the budgeted funds for future technologies and whether that was still in the budget. Mrs. Heine replied yes that there was an additional \$260,000 added to the budget for potential use as part of the Modernized Learning Initiative.

Mr. Cromley thanked Dr. Floyd and Mrs. Raber for bringing in Melmark and for the extensive and informative presentation they gave.

Mr. Pettit asked if the surveillance piece should be put on the agenda for approval promptly as he is hearing a sense of urgency from Mrs. Heine. Mr. Reynolds replied that his department is working with a vendor to put together a final proposal and once they have that then it can be brought before the Board. Mr. Pettit inquired as to how soon this will occur and Mr. Reynolds responded that he should have an initial proposal next week but it may not be ready in time to put on the agenda.

Finance

Mark Dehnert

2nd Tues. 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Dehnert reported that the Finance Committee met on January 13th and the main topic of discussion was the refunding of the 2005 and 2007 Series General Obligation Bonds which would generate a significant savings. The administration and the committee have recommended moving forward with the bond refunding so a motion will be placed on the agenda for next week. The committee reviewed the executive reports which revealed that the net assessment revenues are up, the real estate transfer tax revenues are up, the earned income tax revenue is up, self-insurance claims are under budget by \$400,000, payroll is under budget by \$1.7 million, state reimbursements are currently running over budget, and currently the cafeteria fund is experiencing an \$81,000 loss due to meal counts being down. The committee also discussed the Upper Providence tax collection lien letters which went out and generated a few calls to the business office. Mr. Dehnert reported that the committee reviewed the audit report which the district passed with flying colors. Mr. Dehnert stated that this is a tribute to Mr. Anspach and his team on the great job they do managing the district's finances. The committee also discussed the 2015-2016 budget which Mr. Dehnert stated is a work in progress. The budget will continue to be worked on over the next several months in order to reduce the dollar amount which right now stands at \$145.7 million. Mr. Dehnert stated that when the final budget is presented it will be within the Act 1 Index plus exceptions. The Act 1 Index for this year is 1.9% and the allowable exceptions are 2.2%.

Mr. Anspach offered an explanation on the payroll being under budget by the \$1.7 million saying that his office looked at this today because the numbers seemed off. He explained that with the analysis they are not doing an apple to apple comparison. He stated that in the prior two years the district had a lot more employees which are now contracted positions. Mr. Anspach reported that when they built the 2014-2015 budget the employees that are now contracted were at that time included in the budget figures and this distorts the figures. Mr. Anspach stated that they need to recalculate these figures. Mr. Anspach commented that next month's report will show the correct figures.

Property

Clinton Jackson

2nd Tues. 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Dehnert reported that the Property Committee met for a marathon session which primarily focused on a couple of topics. Mr. Dehnert stated that the committee discussed the high school gymnasium floor which is going to be redone during the summer months and should be ready by the start of the next school year. Discussion also took place on the replacement of the Royersford Elementary roof which is going to be pushed out a year. Mr. Dehnert stated that the committee also discussed two Eagle Scout projects which had been presented at a previous meeting. He commented that the students came back to this month's meeting so that there could be additional discussion. The one project is to build a storage facility at McNelly Stadium which would be a block building and would attach to the concession stand. Mr. Cooper is going to work with the student to see what supplies are needed and the student will then go around and ask for various donations from businesses. Mr. Cooper's in-house staff would help build the structure. The second project is to construct a band observation tower in the parking lot. This project presents a lot of challenges which need to be overcome. The tower would be 26 feet high and there is a lot of engineering that will need to go into this as there are a lot of issues with this in terms of liability. Mr. Dehnert stated that there are a lot of unanswered questions that need to be addressed before this project can move forward. Mr. Dehnert commented that the biggest topic discussed was the health and wellness center which was presented tonight.

Mr. Cromley stated that he wanted to express appreciation to Mr. Cooper and his staff for the construction and installation of the new scoreboard at Ram Stadium and he asked that this gratitude be conveyed to all staff under his supervision on behalf of the Spring City American Legion Baseball Organization in particular Doug Carson and Steven Webb. Mr. Cromley also expressed appreciation for the oak trees that were recently planted along Washington Street. He read a letter he received from a long time resident, Ruth Ann Seislove, conveying her sheer delight and appreciation for the recent oak tree plantings. Mr. Cromley stated that this letter comes from a senior citizen who supports public education.

Community Relations

Todd Wolf

3rd Mon. 6:30 p.m.

No report as the Community Relations Committee did not meet.

PSBA Liaison

Todd Wolf

Report next week.

MCIU

Tom DiBello

4th Weds. 7:00 p.m.

No report as the MCIU did not meet yet.

Asst. Superintendent Rpt. Dr. Allyn J. Roche

Dr. Roche reported that the second marking period will end tomorrow, Wednesday, January 21st and report cards will be available via the Skyward System on Monday, February 2, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. He reminded everyone that the Spring Elementary parent-teacher conferences for grades K-6 are scheduled for Friday February 13th. He stated that there is no school for students on Friday February 13th due to the K-6 conferences and a teacher in-service for grade 7-12. Dr. Roche stated that traditionally the spring conferences are scheduled on an as-needed basis where not all parents are scheduled for conferences and information will be shared from the individual building principals and classroom teachers directly with parents. Dr. Roche reported that each year the Department of Education takes a snapshot of special education student data

on December 1st. He added that the data submission determines the amount of federal funds we receive in our IDEA allocation. Dr. Roche reported that the district had 100% compliance which means that we will receive our full funding for each student with an IEP. He stated that while this is a onetime "snapshot", months of preparation goes into ensuring that the district reports are accurate and that the district receives the funding. Dr. Roche noted that the three special education secretaries, the supervisors of special education, all special education teachers, the MCIU and the technology staff worked collaboratively in order for the district to complete this process. Dr. Roche reported that the district is proud to share our partnership with Spring-Ford Counseling in hosting three evening parent programs called Guiding Good Choices. He stated that Guiding Good Choices teaches parents of children from ages 9 to 14 how to promote healthy behaviors to their children. It addresses how to strengthen healthy bonds in the family, assertive discipline and how to reduce risk factors of drugs and alcohol use. Our first session, focusing on students in grades 7th & 8th, took place on Monday, January 12th with over 25 parents in attendance. Our next two sessions are scheduled for Thursday, March 12th (grades 5th & 6th) and Monday, April 13th (Grade 4). All sessions are located at the 7th Grade Center. Dr. Roche advised everyone that if they are interested in pre-registering for either of the remaining two sessions they can contact Mrs. Blackburn at 610-705-6202. He added that parents are welcome to attend all sessions but the conversations will be focused on the specific grade-level spans. Dr. Roche told everyone to mark their calendars for Friday, April 24th. He stated that participation is needed for the 2nd Annual Spring-Ford Educational Foundation 5K Run/Walk and Kids Fun Run! All proceeds from the 5K go to support the annual Senior Impact Awards dinner. Dr. Roche stated that beginning with the Class of 2006, Spring-Ford Area School District has been honoring individuals, nominated by graduating seniors, who have been instrumental in making an impact on their educational experience. He added that the individual may be anyone who is presently or was previously (retired) associated with the Spring-Ford Area School District in any capacity. An award dinner is hosted each spring for all the nominees and the seniors who nominate them to celebrate how this individual has impacted his/her life while in the Spring-Ford Area School District. Dr. Roche stated that this is an extremely powerful evening for the students and the many teachers, administrators, instructional assistants, and support staff members that are honored by our graduating seniors. The 5K is run at Spring-Ford Area High School on the High School Cross County trail and combines both grass and driveway running. He advised everyone that if they register by Wednesday, April 8th the cost for the 5K including a t-shirt and post-race snacks is \$17.00 for students and \$22.00 for adults. The kids' fun run is \$10.00 and each runner gets a completion medal. Dr. Roche stated that if you are not a runner, donations are accepted as well as we are actively looking for local businesses and corporations for sponsorship. He advised that additional information can be found on the Spring-Ford Area School District website!

Solicitor's Report

Mark Fitzgerald

No report.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no questions or comments.

- A. Administration recommends approval of the November 17, 2014 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A1)**

- B. Administration recommends approval of the November 24, 2014 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A2)**
- C. Administration recommends approval of the December 1, 2014 Board Reorganization Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A3)**
- D. Administration recommends approval of the December 22, 2014 Board Special Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A4)**

VI. **PERSONNEL**

Mr. Cromley commented on the resignations and stated that there are a lot of professionals who are choosing to leave the profession or do something of their own choice and that the district is losing some significant individuals. Mr. Cromley noted some of the staff members who had devoted many years to the district and stated that these employees deserve recognition for their hard work daily at their job.

Mr. DiBello said he does not disagree with most of what Mr. Cromley is saying but wanted to make a point of clarification that many of these staff members are leaving for retirement reasons and not just leaving the district.

Mr. Cromley stated that he fully understands this.

Mr. Dehnert commented that when he was a senior in high school it was Ken DeAngelo's first year as the track coach and up until that time Spring-Ford was a doormat in track. Mr. Dehnert stated that Mr. DeAngelo recruited kids to come out for the team and that first year the team had a 5-5 record. Mr. Dehnert commented that Mr. DeAngelo has built Spring-Ford into a track powerhouse and he will be greatly missed.

A. **Resignations**

1. **Jean F. Bertucci**, Special Education Teacher, Spring City Elementary Hybrid Learning School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: January 16, 2015.
2. **Linda J. Crane**, Art Teacher, Senior High School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective June 17, 2015.
3. **Kenneth DeAngelo**, Track Coach-Boys & Girls-Spring, Senior High School. Effective: January 6, 2015.
4. **Ellen T. Grecco**, Instructional Assistant, Oaks Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: February 4, 2015.
5. **Katherine L. Helm**, Part-time (.5) Special Education Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center. Effective: March 6, 2015.
6. **Maria B. Kardick**, Writing Club – Grade 8. Effective: January 15, 2015.
7. **Douglas M. Kent, Ed. D.**, 12-month Assistant Intermediate/Middle School Principal. Effective: February 13, 2015.

8. **Vincent M. Lanzilotti**, Instructional Assistant, Upper Providence Elementary School. Effective: January 8, 2015.
9. **Jeanmarie Mason, Ed.D.**, Supervisor of Special Education, Senior High School 9-12; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: April 7, 2015.
10. **Daniel E. Miscavage**, Assistant Softball Coach, Senior High School. Effective: January 14, 2015.
11. **Marlo A. Oslon**, Food Service (part-time) 3 hour/day, Senior High School - 9th Grade. Effective: December 3, 2014.
12. **Mary C. Palladino**, Instructional Math Coach 7-12; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 17, 2015.
13. **Joyce E. Parson**, Elementary Teacher, Royersford Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 17, 2015.
14. **Susan M. Pronchik**, Guidance Counselor, Brooke Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 17, 2015.
15. **Christi L. Redeyoff**, Special Education Teacher, Brooke Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: March 31, 2015.
16. **Robin A. Rohrbach**, Elementary Teacher, Upper Providence Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 17, 2015.
17. **Betty J. Ryan**, Secretary, Senior High School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: February 2, 2015.
18. **Maureen A. Serago**, Clerical Assistant, Senior High School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: February 2, 2015.
19. **Denise J. Spagnoli**, Instructional Assistant, Senior High School – 9th Grade; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 17, 2015.
20. **Jennifer D. Wurster**, Instructional Assistant, 7th Grade Center. Effective: January 6, 2015.
21. **Jaclyn Yura-Brown**, Talent Show – Grades 7/8, 7th Grade Center. Effective: December 19, 2014.

B. Leaves of Absence

1. **Scott A. Burr**, Elementary Teacher, Upper Providence Elementary School; for an extension of military leave per Board Policy. Effective: December 23, 2014 through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

2. **Brandy J. Finnegan**, Elementary Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center; for extension of a child-rearing leave of absence per the Professional Agreement. Effective: January 30, 2015 through the end of the third quarter of the 2014-2015 school year.
3. **Kaitlyn A. Skrocki**, Instructional Assistant, Brooke Elementary School; for an unpaid leave of absence per Board Policy. Effective: January 30, 2015 for up to 12 weeks.

C. Change of Status

1. **Robin C. Moyer, Jr.** from 10-month Assistant Intermediate/Middle School Principal to 12-month Assistant Intermediate/Middle School Principal; replacing Douglas M. Kent, Ed.D. who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$106,000.00; prorated with benefits per the Administrator's Plan. Effective: January 27, 2015.

D. Temporary Professional Employee

1. **Kathryn L. Ellor**, Special Education Teacher, Limerick Elementary School. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 2, \$45,700.00; prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: January 20, 2015.

E. Support Staff Employees

1. **Allison R. Eddinger**, Registered Nurse, Royersford Elementary School; replacing Stacy Huntington who had a change of status. Compensation has been set at \$27.25/hr. with benefits per the Registered Nurses' Plan. Effective: December 15, 2014.
2. **Kaitlyn Magan**, Homebound Instructor. Compensation will be set at \$30.00/hour. Effective: December 5, 2014.

F. Support Staff Substitutes

1. **Rose Marie Frymoyer** Food Service
2. **Michele Lathrop** Food Service

- G. Administration recommends approval of the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2014-2015 school year. **(Attachment A5)**
- H. Administration recommends approval of the Spring-Ford Area School District Maintenance Plan, effective July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017.
- I. Administration recommends approval of the Spring-Ford Area School District Instructional Assistants' Plan, effective July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017.
- J. Administration recommends approval of the Spring-Ford Area School District Registered Nurses' Plan, effective July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017.

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.

B. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work SessionNovember

Check No. 155692 – 155758	\$ 239,518.96
ACH 141500234 – 141500240	\$ 1,386.86

December

Check No. 155759 – 156026	\$2,014,211.69
ACH 141500241 – 141500311	\$ 14,006.10

January

Check No. 156027 – 156188	\$1,891,210.07
ACH 141500312 – 141500321	\$ 977.97

2. Athletic FundNovember

Check No. 307558 – 307583	\$ 25,666.64
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December

Check No. 307584 – 307687	\$ 27,396.76
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C. Administration recommends approval of the following **independent contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Associations, the Home and School Leagues, the Parent Teacher Associations and the Parent Teacher Organizations:

1. **Peggy Generd – Oley, PA.** Provide an assembly for students at Spring City Elementary entitled “Stay Healthy with Miss Maggie”. Funding will be paid by the Spring City Home and School League and shall not exceed \$300.00.
2. **Benmore Enterprises – Bushkill, PA.** Provide an assembly for students at Limerick Elementary on the formation of fossils as well as discussion with paleontologists on the discovery of the 8-foot skull of a triceratops. Funding will be paid by the Limerick Elementary Home and School League and shall not exceed \$525.00.

D. Administration recommends approval of the following independent contracts:

1. **Thom Stecher & Associates – Malvern, PA.** Provide an overview with the entire staff and meet individually with grade level staff in conjunction with Upper Providence Elementary’s Unity Day. Funding will be paid from the Pottstown Area Heath and Wellness Foundation Grant and shall not exceed \$2,000.00.
2. **Matt Novak – Carlisle, PA.** Provide two assemblies for students at Spring City Elementary as well as a 4th grade writing workshop in conjunction with Author Day. Funding will be paid from the Spring City Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$850.00.

3. **Skyward – Stevens Point, WI.** Provide On-Site “Employee Management” Training for the Human Resource staff and Business Office Bookkeeping staff on February 11, 2015. Funding will be split between the Human Resource Budget and the Business Office Budget and shall not exceed \$1,690.00.
 4. **Theraplay, Inc. – West Chester, PA.** Provide Speech and Language Therapy for special needs students at Royersford Elementary as per their IEP’s. Services will be provided for 7.5 hours per day for 105 days total at a rate of \$90.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$70,875.00.
 5. **The Martin Luther School – Plymouth Meeting, PA.** Provide educational and related services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 140 days at a rate of \$235.00 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$32,900.00.
 6. **Personal Health Care, Inc. – Valley Forge, PA.** Provide nursing services for a special needs student for health reasons as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 7 hours per day for 5 days per week for 2 months at a rate of \$44.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$12,320.00.
 7. **Catherine Forcey – Collegeville, PA.** Provide specialized reading instruction to a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 125 sessions at a rate of \$30.00 per session. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,750.00.
 8. **Maureen O’Brien – West Chester, PA.** Provide specialized reading instruction to a special needs student as per the IEP, observation of content area classes and consultation with content area teachers. Services will be provided for 144 hours at a rate of \$75.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$10,800.00.
 9. **Education Alternatives – Limerick, PA.** Provide direct supervision of Applied Behavioral Analysis for a special needs student as per the IEP. Direct services will be provided for up to 8 hours per week for 39 weeks at a rate of \$30.00 per hour for a total of \$9,360.00. Supervision services will be provided for 2 hours per week for 39 weeks at a rate of \$95.00 per hour for a total of \$7,410.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed a total of \$16,770.00.
- E. Administration recommends approval of **Resolution #2015-01** regarding the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Administrative Services Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. **(Attachment A6)**
- F. Administration recommends approval of **Resolution #2015-02** regarding the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Curriculum Instruction and Professional Development Services Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. **(Attachment A7)**

- G. Administration recommends approval of **Resolution #2015-03** regarding the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Legislative Services and Grant Development Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. (**Attachment A8**)
- H. Administration recommends approval of **Resolution #2015-04** regarding the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Technology and Information Services Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. (**Attachment A9**)
- I. Administration recommends approval of the 2013-2014 Independent Audit Report completed by Maillie LLP for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. The audit was without findings or material weaknesses. A display copy of the audit is available at the district office and can also be found on the district website under the Business Office.
- J. Administration recommends approval of **Resolution #2015-05** urging the General Assembly to establish a new funding formula for basic education. (**Attachment A10**)
- K. Administration recommends approval of the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

<u>NOVEMBER</u>	
Check No. 12000 – 12017	\$ 194,850.78
<u>DECEMBER</u>	
Check No. 12018 – 12036	\$ 220,943.62

VIII. PROPERTY

There were no questions or comments.

- A. Administration recommends approval of the continuation of the contract for district-wide mowing for year two of a three year option with Black Forest Landscaping & Snowplowing, Inc., the lowest RFP, rejecting all other RFP's. The total cost for year 2 is \$1,287.00 per mowing based on twenty-three mowings per year on average. Funding will come from the General Maintenance Budget.
- B. Administration recommends approval to contract to have specifications drawn up and to seek bids for the replacement of the High School main gymnasium floor due to safety concerns caused by normal usage. The work will be completed over the summer months. This work was planned as per the Capital Improvement Plan with a total cost not to exceed \$200,000.00.

IX. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

There were no questions or comments.

- A. Administration recommends approval of the following new textbooks for 2015-2016. Funding will be paid from the 2014-2015 Curriculum Budget and shall not exceed \$4,000.00.

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>TEXTBOOK</u>	<u>PUBLISHER</u>
International Business	International Business Dlabay/Scott 4th Edition [K-12, 2011]	Cengage Learning Independence, KY

X. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

There were no questions or comments.

The following individuals are recommended for attendance at the following conferences/workshops:

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Bruce Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations & Facilities, to attend the *"PASBO Annual Conference"* in Harrisburg, PA from March 11th – 13th, 2015. The total cost of this conference is \$825.00 (registration, mileage, lodging and meals) from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- B. **Dr. Allyn J. Roche**, Assistant Superintendent, **Elizabeth Leiss**, Director of Human Resources, and **Daniel Currie**, Special Education Supervisor, to attend *"Greater Philadelphia Teacher Job Fair"* at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, PA on March 18, 2015. The total cost to attend this job fair is \$425.00 (registration) from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.
- C. **Carol Ganister**, Data and Reporting Specialist, and **Sarah K. Sacks**, Information Systems Analyst, to attend *"2015 PDE Data Summit"* at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA from March 22 through March 25, 2015. The total cost to attend this conference is \$851.75 (registration, mileage, and meals) from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.
- D. **Deborah Smith**, Administrative Assistant – Child Accounting, to attend *"Attendance/ Child Accounting Professional Association Spring Conference (A/CAPA)"* in Hershey, PA from February 24 through February 27, 2015. All costs are paid for by A/CAPA as Mrs. Smith serves as the President of the Association. No substitute is needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- E. **Maren Bhalla**, College Career Coordinator, to attend *"Florida Atlantic University Counselor Fly-in Program"* at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida from February 8th through February 10th, 2015. There is no cost for this and no substitute is needed.
- F. **Kelly German**, Business Teacher/FBLA Advisor and **Douglas Reigner**, 11th Grade House Principal and Director of High School Student Activities, to attend *"Future Business Leaders of America State Leadership Competition and Conference"* at the Hershey Lodge & Convention Center in Hershey, PA from April 13th through April 15th, 2015. Ms. German will attend April 13th - April 14th, Mr. Reigner will attend April 14th – April 15th and accompany those students who have advanced to the state level of competition. The total cost to attend this conference is \$890.00 (registration, lodging and a substitute for the two days for Ms. German) from the 580 and substitute accounts.

- G. **Mary Ann Group**, Teacher, to attend *“Supporting Students in the Development of Scientific Literacy in Life Sciences and Biology”* at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on February 25 and March 20, 2015. The total cost to attend this training is \$300.00 (substitute for two the days) from the substitute account.
- H. **Seth Jones**, Band Director, **Emily McGranahan**, Orchestra Director, and **Yvonne O’Dea**, Choral Director, to attend *“PMEA All-State Conference and In-Service”* in Hershey, PA from March 25th through March 28th, 2015. Mr. Jones, Ms. McGranahan and Mrs. O’Dea will accompany students who have qualified for All-State Ensembles. The total cost for this conference is \$3,359.75 (registration, mileage, lodging, meals and substitutes) from the 580 and substitute accounts.
- I. **Seth Jones**, Director of Bands, to attend the *“National Association for Music Education (NAfME) Eastern Division Conference”* in Providence, Rhode Island from April 9 through April 12, 2015. Mr. Jones will be accompanying a student who was accepted into the NAFME All-East Band. Mr. Jones and the student will travel using a district van. The total cost to attend this conference is \$1,159.00 (registration, lodging, meals and a substitute for the two days) from the 580 and substitute accounts.

LIMERICK

- J. **John Hughes**, School Counselor, to attend *“Oppositional Defiant & Disruptive Children and Adolescents”* in King of Prussia, PA on March 4, 2015. The total cost of this conference is \$236.00 (registration and mileage) from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

5TH/6TH GRADE CENTER

- K. **Angela Santello**, Registered Nurse, to attend *“Student Assistance Program (SAP) Training”* at Caron’s Philadelphia Regional Office in Plymouth Meeting, PA from March 3 through March 5, 2015 (rescheduled dates). The total cost for this training is \$770.00 (registration, mileage and a substitute for 3 days) from the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant.

7th/8th GRADE CENTER

- L. **Crystal Stubbs**, School Psychologist, to attend *“Student Assistance Program (SAP) Training”* at Caron’s Philadelphia Regional Office in Plymouth Meeting, PA from February 10 through February 12, 2015. The total cost for this training is \$357.45 (registration and mileage) from the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant. No substitute is needed.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Pettit commented on Item B saying he wanted to again acknowledge and express appreciation for the Brooke Home and School Association for their donation.

- A. The following policies are submitted as a second reading for approval at next week’s meeting:

- 1. Policy #210 – PUPILS: Use of Medications (**Attachment A11**)

2. Policy #210.1 – PUPILS: Possession/Use of Asthma Inhalers/Epinephrine Auto-Injectors (**Attachment A12**)
3. Policy #249 – PUPILS: Bullying and Cyber Bullying (**Attachment A13**)
4. Policy #436 – PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES: Personal Leave (**Attachment A14**)
5. Policy #439 – PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES: Uncompensated Leave (**Attachment A15**)
6. Policy #536 – CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: Personal Leave (**Attachment A16**)

- B. Administration acknowledges the acceptance of the donation of \$15,306.46 from the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association to be used towards the purchase of 3 Interactive Projectors and 4 Document Cameras for Brooke Elementary School.

XII. INFORMATIONAL ITEM

Mr. Dehnert noted Item A and that this was an increase in mileage reimbursement.

- A. Effective January 1, 2015, the IRS mileage rate increased from .56 cents per mile to 57.5 cents per mile.

XIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Juliet Davidheiser, resident of Linfield, PA, stated that she is a staff member and a taxpayer. Mrs. Davidheiser commented that she believes her comments with regards to the Health and Wellness Center will not be popular. She stated that she is very much into fitness and has been involved in sports all her life but she feels she must advocate for all of the students across the board. She indicated that she feels her building and other buildings are slighted when it comes to new items and that everything goes to the high school. She commented that the motion for new textbooks is great and understands that there will be new English/Language Arts and Math textbooks coming but the Social Studies text-books are from 1999. She also added that today in the computer lab it took 7-8 minutes for the computers to boot up to the icons. She asked the Board to please think about this as growing enrollment effects the classrooms but not necessarily the sports teams as they have a cap on the number of kids per team. Mrs. Davidheiser stated that not all of the kids play sports and it is imperative that we look at and take care of all kids and not just math, science or sports. Mrs. Davidheiser commented that as a taxpayer she does not want to pay for this. Mrs. Davidheiser stated that this is her first year working with Dr. Kent and she found him to be awesome and he will be greatly missed.

Mr. Jackson asked if anyone could speak to Mrs. Davidheiser's comment regarding the textbooks from 1999. Dr. Floyd replied that it is true that there are some Social Studies textbooks that fall back into that timeframe. Dr. Floyd stated that something he has shared since coming to the district is the need for resources and materials. Dr. Floyd added that when the economic downturn hit the district there were some difficult decisions that were made. He stated that when he first came to the district his operating budget was \$50,000 and for a district our size that is very difficult to build back up. Dr. Floyd reported that they do have a long range plan for materials and resources from every content area from the elementary level to the secondary level in order to reduce the costs over time. Dr. Floyd commented that Social Studies is in the next five-year cycle.

Mrs. Heine stated that textbooks is an area that took one of the biggest hit when the budgets were cut. She recalled that \$35,000 was the budget for books which is an

amount that would not cover one course of books. Mrs. Heine stated that she truly understands and shares Mrs. Davidheiser's frustration but to have this curriculum review cycle and see it in place will be an overall benefit to the district.

Mr. DiBello commented that there are a lot of reasons as to where and when the budgets were cut and it is not all tied to the economic downturn. Mr. DiBello stated that the budget for books was cut and reduced previously prior to the economic downturn and the Board has been working every year to increase that and recover from where it was at. Mr. DiBello stated that he feels we are on a positive path to revamp all curriculum which will come with a cost. He added that Social Studies had been discussed over the past couple of years but did not want to go into details on why it did not come to fruition. Mr. DiBello added that he felt confident that good things were coming.

Mr. Jackson stated that he has heard this twice; when he asked about technology K-8 he was told it is phased in, now he is hearing that textbooks are being phased in. Mr. Jackson asked Dr. Floyd if he had indicated that five years from now we would have the Social Studies textbooks. Dr. Floyd replied that what is being proposed from the Curriculum Committee to the Board is that over the course of the next five years to make improvements to materials and resources. Dr. Floyd stated if the materials can be allocated the first areas they are focusing in on at the elementary/middle level are the English/Language Arts and then Math as each of these are core areas as well and the materials are quite old, then Social Studies and the Sciences there after. Mr. Jackson stated that this is something we really have to look at.

Mrs. Davidheiser spoke to Mr. Jackson from the audience but there was no microphone so her comments were not recorded.

Mr. Jackson stated that this becomes a hard sell when we are sitting here talking about the construction of a building when teachers are saying her books are from 1999. Mr. Jackson stated he would like to look at this to see what the Board can do to expedite this.

Mrs. Heine commented that she agrees with Mr. Jackson but at that level this is not just a purchase of textbooks but it is a curriculum rewrite. Mrs. Heine pointed out that there are only two people in the Curriculum Department for the district. She added that with these two pieces being as large as they are covering K-8 for English/Language Arts and Math then adding Social Studies at the same time could cause a huge amount of overlap and distress to the department. Dr. Floyd commented that Mrs. Heine's comment was a fair statement and they work very hard to do their very best within the parameters. Dr. Floyd stated that with changes to the PA Common Core that is another reason why they are looking to do this.

Mr. Jackson asked if this was a personnel issue and stated that he is trying to get a baseline understanding on this. Dr. Floyd replied that it is two-fold and there are a lot of changes that have occurred over the last two and one-half years and each comes with a fiscal cost.

Mr. DiBello stated that there are many factors on why we are where we are and in the words of Mr. Ciresi “put together your complete list of what you want and let the Board decide if you are going to get it or not”. Mrs. Heine agreed with this and stated that they can take a look at this during the February Curriculum Committee meeting. Mr. DiBello stated that the Social Studies thing has been talked about for three years and money was not the reason for not moving forward with it.

Dr. Goodin stated that the list had been put together and presented at the Curriculum Committee meeting. Mrs. Heine stated that she is not sure Mr. DiBello is talking about the five-year plan such as what Dr. Floyd is talking about. Mrs. Heine stated that she believes what Mr. DiBello is saying is that if there is that much of a need then tell us what you need now to get that done. Mr. Jackson said he strongly supports this. Mr. DiBello stated that was correct and if we need to upgrade Social Studies then put it all together and if we need to hire another Curriculum Director then put it all together and put it on the table.

Dr. Goodin stated that this is what they have been doing this year as they approach budgeting. They have gone through the curriculum/technology piece, put together the five-year plan, and made sure it is included in the budget requests going forward. Dr. Goodin stated that this also includes additional personnel. Dr. Goodin commented that for a district our size we have operated with a very limited curriculum staff. Mr. DiBello stated that Dr. Goodin is still saying something different than what he is saying as what he is saying is to not spread the books over five years but put together what is needed now and say this is what we need. Dr. Goodin stated they would do this.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

On January 28, 2015 the Work Session of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Willard D. Cromley and Bernard F. Pettit
Region II: Dawn R. Heine, Clinton L. Jackson and Todd R. Wolf
Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi
Presiding Officer: Mark P. Dehnert
Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin
Business Manager: Timothy Anspach
Solicitor: Kyle Berman, Esq.
Student Reps.: Taylor M. Auman and Dana K. Ludgate

The following Board Members were absent: Thomas J. DiBello and Kelly J. Spletzer

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Dehnert announced that the Student Representatives to the School Board would be providing the announcements at the Board Meetings going forward.

Dana Ludgate announced that report cards will be available on the district website Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 4 p.m. This date was adjusted due to the recent snow day. Dana encouraged parents to login to Skyward to view their student's report card. Dana next announced that this week many of our schools will be participating in the Great Kindness Challenge. She added that the Great Kindness Challenge is one school week devoted to performing as many acts of kindness as possible, choosing from a check list of 50 suggestions. Dana also encouraged the Spring-Ford community to participate in the challenge as well by performing random acts of kindness throughout the day.

Mr. Dehnert noted that the Board would be meeting in an Executive Session to discuss Personnel

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Dehnert announced that with the rescheduling of the board meeting due to the weather conditions on Monday evening, several of the presentations must be postponed until February. The only presentation taking place this evening will be the one for the Spring-Ford Proposed Preliminary Budget by Dr. Goodin and Mr. Anspach.

Dr. Goodin explained timeline for the budget process under the Act 1 guidelines. He spoke about the budget shortfall by showing the 2015-2016 expenses and revenue and the difference between the two. Dr. Goodin next explained the Act 1 exceptions that the district is eligible to apply for which include special education expenditures and retirement contributions. Dr. Goodin showed the comparison of budgets from 2014-15 and 2015-16. Mr. Anspach spoke about the changes in expenses for 2015-2016. Mr. Anspach next discussed the 2015-16 revenues and highlighted the revenue changes. Mr. Anspach explained the challenges to the 2015-2016 budget. He also provided the board and the public with the important budget dates.

Mr. Ciresi stated that there was a reference to new personnel in the budget presentation and he asked if Dr. Goodin could explain what those positions were. Dr. Goodin replied that he did not have the list with all of the positions but that he had worked with the district administrators to come up with a list of requested positions. Dr. Goodin indicated that the positions will be reviewed during the Finance Committee meetings and that he and Dr. Roche rank the positions in the order of need. Mr. Ciresi asked when the Board may receive the list and Dr. Goodin replied at the Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Anspach if he recalled what the budget was in 2010 and Mr. Anspach stated he did not recall this figure off the top of his head. Mr. Ciresi stated that it was about \$134 million and from 2010 until last year the budget has grown about \$7 million and we are now looking at about a \$9 million jump in one year which is pretty significant. Mr. Ciresi stated he knows it is a huge jump in personnel and overall the budget presents a huge jump especially when the economy is in a rebound. Mr. Ciresi commented that the district needs to take a hard-nosed look at what we are spending money on because the one thing that stands out to him is that curriculum expenses is less than 10% and to the overall budget the increase is .0037%. Mr. Anspach stated that both he and Dr. Goodin would agree with Mr. Ciresi and he reminded everyone that this is just the preliminary budget and they realize that they have a lot of work yet to do. Mr. Ciresi asked that the personnel list be distributed to the Board. Mr. Ciresi pointed out that only 11% of the district's budget comes from the state and it is time that the taxpayers hold the state representatives accountable. Mr. Ciresi stated that the district is also paying for charter schools which rank 9th in the state which he finds disgusting.

Mr. Jackson asked why Mr. Ciresi picked 2010 as the year to compare the budget to and Mr. Ciresi stated that he could have picked any year but just chose that one.

- A. **Dr. David R. Goodin**, Superintendent of Schools, and **Mr. Timothy Anspach**, Business Manager, to present the 2015-2016 Proposed Preliminary Budget for the Spring-Ford Area School District.

III. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

PSBA Liaison Todd Wolf

Mr. Wolf reported that he introduced himself to PSBA as the new district liaison and spoke to Zachary Pierce, Member Relations Coordinator for the East, regarding a presentation to our district at our February 17th Work Session.

MCIU Tom DiBello 4th Weds. 7:00 p.m.

No report as Mr. DiBello was at the MCIU for their meeting this evening. The report will follow at next month's meeting.

Personnel Bernard Pettit

Mr. Pettit reported the Personnel Committee met with the instructional assistants, the maintenance and the nurses support staff groups and the Board has been given the information regarding the new plans which appear on the agenda for approval and will run from June 2015 through June 2017. Mr. Pettit commented that there had been several meetings with the groups where input was given.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin thanked the staff and Custer's Garage for the safe and timely response to the recent early dismissal and late opening. Dr. Goodin stated that the early dismissal was the first one in many years and while there were some procedural questions the majority of parents felt the information was shared quickly and clearly. Dr. Goodin reported that all students were transported to and from school without any incidents. Dr. Goodin announced that over the past several years Spring City Hybrid School has received recognition for their hybrid learning approach. He added that hybrid learning provides students with more face to face time with their respective teachers as well as exposure to additional educational tools and technologies. Dr. Goodin reported that in December Spring City was featured in a report published by Delliker Strategies and the Hybrid Learning Institute on the latest hybrid learning program results. Spring-Ford was among the 19 school districts in the study and Spring City was featured for scoring proficient or advanced on the PSSA tests at a rate of 22% higher than the previous year with gains in all subjects attributable to their building-wide hybrid learning program. Dr. Goodin added that earlier this month the district learned that Spring City was only 1 of 96 Title I schools selected to be a Title I Distinguished School by PDE. Dr. Goodin stated that in addition they are eligible to be selected as Pennsylvania's National Title I Distinguished School. Dr. Goodin commented that National Title I Distinguished Schools will be honored at Title I Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah in February 2015. Dr. Goodin next stated that earlier this month it was reported that the Collegeville Wegmans was selected as the recipient of the 2015 Council for Exceptional Children Business Award. Dr. Goodin commented that since its opening the Collegeville Wegmans has worked closely with Spring-Ford's students offering employment opportunities with a competitive hourly rate and advancement opportunities for the district's special education students. Dr. Goodin reported that Special Education Supervisor, Dr. Jeanmarie Mason had nominated the store for this prestigious award. Dr. Goodin congratulated the Wegmans' Management Team and he thanked them for their continual support of Spring-Ford students. Dr. Goodin stated that in honor of National School Director Recognition Month he would like to personally thank the Board for their ongoing dedication to the students and staff of Spring-Ford. He thanked them for volunteering countless hours to assisting and molding the vision of public education in our community. Dr. Goodin advised everyone that next month the district will be recognizing the School Board.

Solicitor's Report Kyle Berman

No report.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-D and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved the November 17, 2014 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A1)**
- B. The Board approved the November 24, 2014 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A2)**

- C. The Board approved the December 1, 2014 Board Reorganization Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A3)**
- D. The Board approved the December 22, 2014 Board Special Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A4)**

V. PERSONNEL

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-J and Mrs. Heine seconded it.

Mr. Ciresi commented on the teachers retiring and stated that he knows many of them and would like to wish them well. Mr. Ciresi stated that losing these teachers who have been with the district for a long time will leave us with some tough shoes to fill. Mr. Ciresi thanked all of the retirees for their service to the district. Mr. Ciresi also acknowledged David Francella who was resigning in order to further his career. Mr. Ciresi stated that Mr. Francella was a great asset to the Business Office; he thanked him for his service and said that he will be greatly missed.

The motion passed 7-0.

A. Resignations

1. **Jean F. Bertucci**, Special Education Teacher, Spring City Elementary Hybrid Learning School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: January 16, 2015.
2. **Linda J. Crane**, Art Teacher, Senior High School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective June 17, 2015.
3. **Kenneth DeAngelo**, Track Coach-Boys & Girls-Spring, Senior High School. Effective: January 6, 2015.
4. **Ellen T. Grecco**, Instructional Assistant, Oaks Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: February 4, 2015.
5. **Katherine L. Helm**, Part-time (.5) Special Education Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center. Effective: March 6, 2015.
6. **Maria B. Kardick**, Writing Club – Grade 8. Effective: January 15, 2015.
7. **Douglas M. Kent, Ed. D.**, 12-month Assistant Intermediate/Middle School Principal. Effective: February 13, 2015.
8. **Vincent M. Lanzilotti**, Instructional Assistant, Upper Providence Elementary School. Effective: January 8, 2015.
9. **Jeanmarie Mason, Ed.D.**, Supervisor of Special Education, Senior High School 9-12; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: April 7, 2015.
10. **Daniel E. Miscavage**, Assistant Softball Coach, Senior High School. Effective: January 14, 2015.

11. **Marlo A. Oslon**, Food Service (part-time) 3 hour/day, Senior High School - 9th Grade. Effective: December 3, 2014.
12. **Mary C. Palladino**, Instructional Math Coach 7-12; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 17, 2015.
13. **Joyce E. Parson**, Elementary Teacher, Royersford Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 17, 2015.
14. **Susan M. Pronchik**, Guidance Counselor, Brooke Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 17, 2015.
15. **Christi L. Redeyoff**, Special Education Teacher, Brooke Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: March 31, 2015.
16. **Robin A. Rohrbach**, Elementary Teacher, Upper Providence Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 17, 2015.
17. **Betty J. Ryan**, Secretary, Senior High School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: February 2, 2015.
18. **Maureen A. Serago**, Clerical Assistant, Senior High School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: February 2, 2015.
19. **Denise J. Spagnoli**, Instructional Assistant, Senior High School – 9th Grade; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 17, 2015.
20. **Jennifer D. Wurster**, Instructional Assistant, 7th Grade Center. Effective: January 6, 2015.
21. **Jaclyn Yura-Brown**, Talent Show – Grades 7/8, 7th Grade Center. Effective: December 19, 2014.

New Resignation

22. **David J. Francella**, Assistant Business Manager, District Office. Effective: February 3, 2015.

B. Leaves of Absence

1. **Scott A. Burr**, Elementary Teacher, Upper Providence Elementary School; for an extension of military leave per Board Policy. Effective: December 23, 2014 through the end of the 2014-2015 school year.
2. **Brandy J. Finnegan**, Elementary Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center; for extension of a child-rearing leave of absence per the Professional Agreement. Effective: January 30, 2015 through the end of the third quarter of the 2014-2015 school year.

3. **Kaitlyn A. Skrocki**, Instructional Assistant, Brooke Elementary School; for an unpaid leave of absence per Board Policy. Effective: January 30, 2015 for up to 12 weeks.

C. Change of Status

1. **Robin C. Moyer, Jr.** from 10-month Assistant Intermediate/Middle School Principal to 12-month Assistant Intermediate/Middle School Principal; replacing Douglas M. Kent, Ed.D. who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$106,000.00; prorated with benefits per the Administrator's Plan. Effective: January 27, 2015.

D. Temporary Professional Employee

1. **Kathryn L. Ellor**, Special Education Teacher, Limerick Elementary School. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 2, \$45,700.00; prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: January 20, 2015.

E. Support Staff Employees

1. **Allison R. Eddinger**, Registered Nurse, Royersford Elementary School; replacing Stacy Huntington who had a change of status. Compensation has been set at \$27.25/hr. with benefits per the Registered Nurses' Plan. Effective: December 15, 2014.
2. **Kaitlyn Magan**, Homebound Instructor. Compensation will be set at \$30.00/hour. Effective: December 5, 2014.

F. Support Staff Substitutes

1. **Rose Marie Frymoyer** Food Service
2. **Michele Lathrop** Food Service

- G. The Board approved the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2014-2015 school year. **(Attachment A5)**
- H. The Board approved the Spring-Ford Area School District Maintenance Plan, effective July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017.
- I. The Board approved the Spring-Ford Area School District Instructional Assistants' Plan, effective July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017.
- J. The Board approved the Spring-Ford Area School District Registered Nurses' Plan, effective July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017.

VI. FINANCE

Mr. Dehnert asked that Item J be separated and Mr. Ciresi asked that Item T be separated.

Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Items A-I and K-S and Mr. Jackson seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item J and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Dehnert commented that the Board did this same resolution a year ago and he does not feel that these resolutions are very effective. Mr. Dehnert suggested that a better use of their time would be to hold a town hall meeting and invite the state representatives to this meeting so that they could inform the public about their plans to have property tax reform and changes in the funding for schools and also address unfunded mandates and PSERS. This town hall meeting will also give the board and the community the opportunity to express their concerns and comment on what they would like to see done.

Mr. Pettit felt it was an excellent suggestion to hold a town hall meeting but also felt that the Board should follow through with the resolution.

Mr. Ciresi agreed as well with regards to the town hall meeting but stated that in talks he had with Senator Dinniman it was mentioned that Spring-Ford is his top district with regards to resolutions. Mr. Dinniman relayed to Mr. Ciresi that he has every resolution that Spring-Ford ever sent him.

Mrs. Heine also felt the resolution should be done as she stated that it sets the tone for what the district's expectations are regarding the town hall meeting.

Mr. Dehnert was opposed to doing the same resolution as had been done before and he felt that there should be a different resolution with different wording.

Mr. Jackson suggested that the Board rewrite the resolution and Mr. Dehnert agreed with this suggestion.

Mr. Ciresi suggested that the resolution be sent to the Community Relations Committee to revise the wording. Mr. Dehnert agreed with Mr. Ciresi's suggestion.

Mr. Jackson asked about the timeline for the town hall meeting and Mr. Dehnert replied within the next two months and no later than March 31st.

Mr. Ciresi withdrew his original motion and Mr. Pettit withdrew his second. Mr. Ciresi made a motion to table Item J and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. Item J was tabled.

***NEW ADDITIONS SINCE THE WORK SESSION**

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. 155692 – 155758 \$ 239,518.96

ACH 141500234 – 141500240 \$ 1,386.86

December

Check No. 155759 – 156026	\$2,014,211.69
ACH 141500241 – 141500311	\$ 14,006.10

January

Check No. 156027 – 156188	\$1,891,210.07
ACH 141500312 – 141500321	\$ 977.97

2. **Athletic Fund**

November

Check No. 307558 – 307583	\$ 25,666.64
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December

Check No. 307584 – 307687	\$ 27,396.76
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3. ***Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting**

***January**

*Check No. 156189 – 156232	\$ 239,681.07
*ACH 141500322 – 141500324	\$ 333.24

4. ***Board Checks held for approval**

***January**

*Check No. 156233 – 156263	\$ 241,972.21
*ACH 141500325 – 141500365	\$ 28,322.05

C. The Board approved the following **independent contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Associations, the Home and School Leagues, the Parent Teacher Associations and the Parent Teacher Organizations:

1. **Peggy Generd – Oley, PA.** Provide an assembly for students at Spring City Elementary entitled “Stay Healthy with Miss Maggie”. Funding will be paid by the Spring City Home and School League and shall not exceed \$300.00.
2. **Benmore Enterprises – Bushkill, PA.** Provide an assembly for students at Limerick Elementary on the formation of fossils as well as discussion with paleontologists on the discovery of the 8-foot skull of a triceratops. Funding will be paid by the Limerick Elementary Home and School League and shall not exceed \$525.00.

D. The Board approved the following independent contracts:

1. **Thom Stecher & Associates – Malvern, PA.** Provide an overview with the entire staff and meet individually with grade level staff in conjunction with Upper Providence Elementary’s Unity Day. Funding will be paid from the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant and shall not exceed \$2,000.00.

2. **Matt Novak – Carlisle, PA.** Provide two assemblies for students at Spring City Elementary as well as a 4th grade writing workshop in conjunction with Author Day. Funding will be paid from the Spring City Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$850.00.
 3. **Skyward – Stevens Point, WI.** Provide On-Site “Employee Management” Training for the Human Resource staff and Business Office Bookkeeping staff on February 11, 2015. Funding will be split between the Human Resource Budget and the Business Office Budget and shall not exceed \$1,690.00.
 4. **Theraplay, Inc. – West Chester, PA.** Provide Speech and Language Therapy for special needs students at Royersford Elementary as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 7.5 hours per day for 105 days total at a rate of \$90.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$70,875.00.
 5. **The Martin Luther School – Plymouth Meeting, PA.** Provide educational and related services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 140 days at a rate of \$235.00 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$32,900.00.
 6. **Personal Health Care, Inc. – Valley Forge, PA.** Provide nursing services for a special needs student for health reasons as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 7 hours per day for 5 days per week for 2 months at a rate of \$44.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$12,320.00.
 7. **Catherine Forcey – Collegeville, PA.** Provide specialized reading instruction to a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 125 sessions at a rate of \$30.00 per session. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,750.00.
 8. **Maureen O’Brien – West Chester, PA.** Provide specialized reading instruction to a special needs student as per the IEP, observation of content area classes and consultation with content area teachers. Services will be provided for 144 hours at a rate of \$75.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$10,800.00.
 9. **Education Alternatives – Limerick, PA.** Provide direct supervision of Applied Behavioral Analysis for a special needs student as per the IEP. Direct services will be provided for up to 8 hours per week for 39 weeks at a rate of \$30.00 per hour for a total of \$9,360.00. Supervision services will be provided for 2 hours per week for 39 weeks at a rate of \$95.00 per hour for a total of \$7,410.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed a total of \$16,770.00.
- E. The Board approved **Resolution #2015-01** regarding the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Administrative Services Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. **(Attachment A6)**
- F. The Board approved **Resolution #2015-02** regarding the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Curriculum Instruction and Professional Development Services Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. **(Attachment A7)**

- G. The Board approved **Resolution #2015-03** regarding the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Legislative Services and Grant Development Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. (**Attachment A8**)
- H. The Board approved **Resolution #2015-04** regarding the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Technology and Information Services Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. (**Attachment A9**)
- I. The Board approved the 2013-2014 Independent Audit Report completed by Maillie LLP for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. The audit was without findings or material weaknesses. A display copy of the audit is available at the district office and can also be found on the district website under the Business Office.
- J. The Board tabled the vote on **Resolution #2015-05** urging the General Assembly to establish a new funding formula for basic education. (**Attachment A10**)
- K. The Board approved the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:
- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| <u>NOVEMBER</u> | |
| Check No. 12000 – 12017 | \$ 194,850.78 |
| <u>DECEMBER</u> | |
| Check No. 12018 – 12036 | \$ 220,943.62 |

New Finance

- L. 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 approval
- *December**
- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| *Check No. 32860 – 32861 | \$ 4,014.16 |
| <u>*January</u> | |
| *Check No. 32862 – 32862 | \$ 2,225.27 |
- M. The Board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **JANUARY** in connection with the **CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT – Fund 32**:

***December**

*Apple Inc.	Technology–District Wide	\$ 30,360.00
*Camcor	Technology–District Wide	\$ 897.54
*CDW Government Inc.	Technology–District Wide	\$ 78,931.00
*ePlus Technology Inc.	Technology–District Wide (3 Inv)	\$ 24,895.00
*Neuber Environmental (2 Inv.)	Asbestos Removal-Bechtel Rd.	\$ 16,086.00
*Spring-Ford ASD Mount Bracket	Amazon-Senior High Café-Wall	\$ 3.00
*Whitlock	Technology–District Wide	\$ 120,197.00
	TOTAL	\$ 271,369.54

***January**

*BRB Contractors	Applic. #1-Bechtel Rd Demolition	\$ 79,500.00
*Colonial Electric Supply	Technology-District Wide	\$ 1,167.95
*Resilite Sports Prod.	Senior High-Wrestling Mats	\$ 13,572.20
*Spring-Ford ASD	Apple Inc.-Technology District	\$ 11,370.00
Wide		
*Spring-Ford ASD	Amazon-Senior High Café -	\$ 188.05
Equipment		
*Whitlock	Technology-District Wide	\$ 1,523.50
	TOTAL	\$ 107,321.70

N. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market – November 2014/December 2014
- PSDLAF – November 2014/December 2014
- PSDMAX – November 2014/December 2014
- Checking Account – November 2014/December 2014
- PLGIT Account – November 2014/December 2014
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule – November 2014/December 2014
- Payroll Account – November 2014/December 2014
- Tax Account – November 2014/December 2014

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – November 2014/December 2014
- 7th Grade Activity – November 2014/December 2014
- 8th Grade Activity – November 2014/December 2014
- High School Activity – November 2014/December 2014
- Athletic Account – November 2014/December 2014

Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – November 2014/December 2014

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – November 2014/December 2014
- Debt Service Fund – November 2014/December 2014
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – November 2014/December 2014

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – November 2014/December 2014
- Cafeteria Checking Account – November 2014/December 2014
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – November 2014/December 2014
- Investment Account – November 2014/December 2014

- O. The Board approved **Resolution 2015-06** authorizing Fox Rothschild and Boenning & Scattergood to move forward with the necessary paperwork in preparation of the Current Refunding of the Series of 2005 (estimated savings \$1,648,000) and Advanced Refunding of the Series A of 2007 (estimated savings \$1,741,726). The structure of the new bond will generate savings in the next 3 years of approximately \$1 million per year. (**Attachment A11**)

P. The Board approved making public the 2015-2016 Proposed Preliminary Budget for the required 20 days and advertise the Board's intent to adopt the Preliminary Budget on February 17, 2015 and to submit referendum exceptions to the PA Department of Education before February 26, 2015.

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

Permits No. 5136 – 5182

R. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2014-2015 school year:

Limerick Township	No. 001 – 189
Royersford Borough	No. 094 – 114
Spring City Borough	No. 030 – 031
Upper Providence Township	No. 001 – 270

S. The Board approved the following **additions/deletions** to the per capita tax for the 2014-2015 school year:

Limerick Township Additions	No. 001 – 052
Limerick Township Deletions	No. 001 – 1393
Royersford Borough Deletions	No. 360 – 380
Upper Providence Deletions	No. 001 – 084

Addendum

Mr. Wolf made a motion to approve Item T and Mr. Jackson seconded it.

Mr. Ciresi commented that normally when motions like this come up the Board is given more information in advance of the vote taking place and he questioned why the Board was not more informed about this. Mr. Berman replied that he could not provide any information about this motion as he did not have it but possibly the Business Office could provide more details. Mr. Dehnert stated that he believes that what happened with this was that it was a missed email and the intent was to get it on the work session agenda which would have given the Board more time to discuss and ask questions.

Mr. Anspach provided details regarding the impact of the settlement to the district from a tax perspective. Mr. Anspach stated that normally with a motion like this he has additional information that goes out to the board as part of the weekly memo. Mr. Anspach provided details on the property tax assessment and the process that leading up to the settlement agreement. He stated that the settlement is a win for the district.

Mr. Ciresi asked that in the future the Board be given the opportunity to discuss this before it comes to the table and not have it given to them three or four hours before the meeting.

The motion passed 7-0.

T. The Board authorized Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 649 N. Lewis Road in Limerick Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 37-00-01762-00-1 setting the assessments of the property at \$2,354,800 for tax year

2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$2,517,200 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14) and at \$2,574,040 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment, pursuant to applicable law.

VII. PROPERTY

Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved the continuation of the contract for district-wide mowing for year two of a three year option with Black Forest Landscaping & Snowplowing, Inc., the lowest RFP, rejecting all other RFP's. The total cost for year 2 is \$1,287.00 per mowing based on twenty-three mowings per year on average. Funding will come from the General Maintenance Budget.
- B. The Board approved contracting to have specifications drawn up and to seek bids for the replacement of the High School main gymnasium floor due to safety concerns caused by normal usage. The work will be completed over the summer months. This work was planned as per the Capital Improvement Plan with a total cost not to exceed \$200,000.00.

VIII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item A and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved the following new textbooks for 2015-2016. Funding will be paid from the 2014-2015 Curriculum Budget and shall not exceed \$4,000.00.

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>TEXTBOOK</u>	<u>PUBLISHER</u>
International Business	International Business Dlabay/Scott 4th Edition [K-12, 2011]	Cengage Learning Independence, KY

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Items A-O and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

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 Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations & Facilities, to attend the "PASBO Annual Conference" in Harrisburg, PA from March 11th – 13th, 2015. The total cost of this conference is \$825.00 (registration, mileage, lodging and meals) from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

- B. **Dr. Allyn J. Roche**, Assistant Superintendent, **Elizabeth Leiss**, Director of Human Resources, and **Daniel Currie**, Special Education Supervisor, to attend “*Greater Philadelphia Teacher Job Fair*” at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, PA on March 18, 2015. The total cost to attend this job fair is \$425.00 (registration) from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.
- C. **Carol Ganister**, Data and Reporting Specialist, and **Sarah K. Sacks**, Information Systems Analyst, to attend “*2015 PDE Data Summit*” at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA from March 22 through March 25, 2015. The total cost to attend this conference is \$851.75 (registration, mileage, and meals) from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.
- D. **Deborah Smith**, Administrative Assistant – Child Accounting, to attend “*Attendance/Child Accounting Professional Association Spring Conference (A/CAPA)*” in Hershey, PA from February 24 through February 27, 2015. All costs are paid for by A/CAPA as Mrs. Smith serves as the President of the Association. No substitute is needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- E. **Maren Bhalla**, College Career Coordinator, to attend “*Florida Atlantic University Counselor Fly-in Program*” at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida from February 8th through February 10th, 2015. There is no cost for this and no substitute is needed.
- F. **Kelly German**, Business Teacher/FBLA Advisor and **Douglas Reigner**, 11th Grade House Principal, to attend “*Future Business Leaders of America State Leadership Competition and Conference*” at the Hershey Lodge & Convention Center from April 13th through April 15th, 2015. Ms. German will attend April 13th - April 14th, Mr. Reigner will attend April 14th – April 15th and accompany those students who have advanced to the state level of competition. The total cost to attend this conference is \$890.00 (registration, lodging and a substitute for the two days for Ms. German) from the 580 and substitute accounts.
- G. **Mary Ann Group**, Teacher, to attend “*Supporting Students in the Development of Scientific Literacy in Life Sciences and Biology*” at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on February 25 and March 20, 2015. The total cost to attend this training is \$300.00 (substitute for two the days) from the substitute account.
- H. **Seth Jones**, Band Director, **Emily McGranahan**, Orchestra Director, and **Yvonne O’Dea**, Choral Director, to attend “*PMEA All-State Conference and In-Service*” in Hershey, PA from March 25th through March 28th, 2015. Mr. Jones, Ms. McGranahan and Mrs. O’Dea will accompany students who have qualified for All-State Ensembles. The total cost for this conference is \$3,359.75 (registration, mileage, lodging, meals and substitutes) from the 580 and substitute accounts.
- I. **Seth Jones**, Director of Bands, to attend the “*National Association for Music Education (NAfME) Eastern Division Conference*” in Providence, Rhode Island from April 9 through April 12, 2015. Mr. Jones will be accompanying a student who was accepted into the NAfME All-East Band. Mr. Jones and the student will travel using a district van. The total cost to attend this conference is \$1,159.00 (registration, lodging, meals and a substitute for the two days) from the 580 and substitute accounts.

LIMERICK

- J. **John Hughes**, School Counselor, to attend "*Oppositional Defiant & Disruptive Children and Adolescents*" in King of Prussia, PA on March 4, 2015. The total cost of this conference is \$236.00 (registration and mileage) from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

5TH/6TH GRADE CENTER

- K. **Angela Santello**, Registered Nurse, to attend "*Student Assistance Program (SAP) Training*" at Caron's Philadelphia Regional Office in Plymouth Meeting, PA from March 3 through March 5, 2015 (rescheduled dates). The total cost for this training is \$770.00 (registration, mileage and a substitute for 3 days) from the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant.

7th/8th GRADE CENTER

- L. **Crystal Stubbs**, School Psychologist, to attend "*Student Assistance Program (SAP) Training*" at Caron's Philadelphia Regional Office in Plymouth Meeting, PA from February 10 through February 12, 2015. The total cost for this training is \$357.45 (registration and mileage) from the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant. No substitute is needed.

New Conference and Workshop Recommendations

- M. **Diana Ward**, Family and Consumer Science Department Chair/Teacher, to attend "*The Pennsylvania Family & Consumer Sciences Annual Conference: Vital, Innovative, Challenging*" at The Inn at Pocono Manor on April 30 and May 1, 2015. The total cost is \$300.00 (a substitute for 2 days) from the substitute account. Ms. Ward is covering all other conference expenses.
- N. **Jennie Anderson**, Teacher, to attend "*TI Math Workshop*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on March 5, 2015 in the afternoon only. The total cost for this workshop is \$75.00 (1/2 day substitute) from the substitute account.
- O. **Chad Brubaker**, Head Football Coach, **Chad Strickler**, Assistant Football Coach, and **Jim Mich, Jr.**, Defensive Coach, to attend "*The Pennsylvania Scholastic Football Coaches Association Clinic*" at the Penn Stater Hotel in State College, PA on February 13, 2015. There is no cost to the district and no substitutes are required.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Cromley seconded it.

Mr. Jackson asked about Item B wondering if the donations for the purchase of technology were outside of the technology plan or are they additional purchases. Mrs. Heine replied that the donations do not change the budgeted \$250,000 or any items earmarked for that school. The donation is in addition to this and is the individual school group's own doing.

Mr. Ciresi asked about Item C questioning if this could be made for the entire year. Dr. Goodin commented that he would prefer for it to be seasonally so that these items can be kept before the Board and not lost track of. Dr. Goodin added that this motion would give him the ability to approve post-season overnight travel when teams advance. Mr. Ciresi asked if the Board could not just do a policy that would give Dr. Goodin permission to approve this type of travel

rather than have to list it on the agenda constantly. Dr. Roche commented that the question has to do more with overnight travel, board approval and where that falls under our insurance. Dr. Roche stated that this motion is just a stop gap for in between meetings when a team qualifies and no meeting is scheduled before the team would have to travel, stay overnight and compete in the post season play. Mr. Ciresi asked if the solicitor could come up with a policy that would cover the district in the event of this occurring. Mr. Dehnert asked if other districts have a policy that allows the superintendent to grant this type of approval. Mr. Berman replied no, that most districts have approval granted by the Board in order to keep it before the Board as well as for insurance purposes, legal concerns and so that the Board can have control over the extent of which the district will be funding the post season play.

Discussion took place on the interpretation of this motion and whether in addition the policy needed to be revised. The consensus was to approve the motion and then take it back to the Policy Committee for further discussion and revision of the current policy.

The motion passed 7-0.

A. The following policies were approved:

1. Policy #210 – PUPILS: Use of Medications (**Attachment A12**)
2. Policy #210.1 – PUPILS: Possession/Use of Asthma Inhalers/Epinephrine Auto-Injectors (**Attachment A13**)
3. Policy #249 – PUPILS: Bullying and Cyber Bullying (**Attachment A14**)
4. Policy #436 – PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES: Personal Leave (**Attachment A15**)
5. Policy #439 – PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES: Uncompensated Leave (**Attachment A16**)
6. Policy #536 – CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: Personal Leave (**Attachment A17**)

B. The Board acknowledged the donation of \$15,306.46 from the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association to be used towards the purchase of 3 Interactive Projectors and 4 Document Cameras for Brooke Elementary School.

New Other Business

C. The Board granted approval for all Winter Athletic Teams/Individuals that qualify for post season play to be granted permission for overnight travel, when deemed necessary by the Athletic Department, and approved by the Superintendent or their Designee. The School Board will be notified of this travel and Board approval will be sought at the next scheduled Board meeting. Funding will be paid from the Athletic Budget.

XI. INFORMATIONAL ITEM

There were no questions.

A. Effective January 1, 2015, the IRS mileage rate increased from .56 cents per mile to 57.5 cents per mile.

XII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

There were no comments from the public.

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.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Fern
School Board Secretary