

On February 25, 2013 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:35 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Bernard F. Pettit and Willard D. Cromley
Region II: Clara M. Gudolonis, Dawn R. Heine and Julie A. Mullin
Region III: Mark P. Dehnert
Presiding Officer: Thomas J. DiBello
Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin
Business Manager: Timothy Anspach
Solicitor: Brian Subers, Esq.
Student Rep.: Elizabeth Brady

The following Board Members were absent: Joseph P. Ciresi and Edward T. Dressler, Jr.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. DiBello asked area business owners if they were looking for a great way to advertise their business and support the Spring-Ford Area School District. He advised them to visit the district's website to learn more about the Partnership Program and see how their business can get the most from their advertising dollars. Mr. DiBello invited the community to consider nominating an exceptional Spring-Ford Area School District teacher to be the recipient of the 2013 Freedom's Voices of Inspiration Award for Teaching Excellence. For more information, visit the district's website. Mr. DiBello announced that the Spring-Ford Area School District is on Facebook and urged the community to like the page to stay up-to-date on district happenings by going to Facebook.com and searching "Spring-Ford Area School District." Mr. DiBello reminded parents to check their children's individual building websites for news on activities and events taking place in their schools. He advised them that they can also receive information about events taking place in the district by visiting www.spring-ford.net. Mr. DiBello announced that prior to tonight's meeting the Board met in an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no public comments.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Goodin stated that he would like to share with the Board and the community the most recent results from the climate survey that was conducted. He said the most recent one focused on our parents, our community and our staff. Dr. Goodin reported that there was a student component but due to the low participation it was decided to extend the window for this survey. Dr. Goodin shared the results of the survey from the parents, community and staff which ran from November 28th through December 21st. He stated that the survey

looked at questions related to academic preparation, faculty relations and support, parent engagement, safety and behavior, school leadership, school operations, student support and technology. Dr. Goodin spoke about the report design which was organized according to topics identified in the district's core mission; to be educationally relevant, focused on achievement and have a priority on people. Dr. Goodin reported that 90% of the staff and parents rated the quality of their schools with an A or B. He next gave the executive summary of the results of the survey. Dr. Goodin commented on the parent response regarding bullying in which 45% of parents reported that students do not threaten or bully each other at school. Dr. Goodin stated that bullying has become a more prevalent topic due to the amount of exposure and work we do in this area so people are much more aware of bullying problems in schools. Dr. Goodin stated that he does not think the bullying problem in our district is greater or less than what you would find in another school but we certainly have programs in place that address those activities. Dr. Goodin reminded everyone of the FriendWatch Program which was instituted last year and has been very helpful in situations where a student feels that they are being bullied or they are seeing someone else being bullied and they are able to anonymously report this through the program.

Mr. Dehnert asked about the results related to the bullying question and whether we knew what grade level the 45% comprised. Dr. Goodin replied that tomorrow on the website in the Your Voice link there will be a more detailed breakdown of the data from this survey and you will be able to look at the responses from parents and staff by grade level groupings. Mr. Dehnert asked if the answers were evenly distributed or was there a big difference between secondary and elementary. Dr. Goodin replied that at the moment he could not give data on where the numbers broke down as far as levels but he could report that we did not see the parent participation that we did last year as it was down a little bit.

Mr. DiBello stated that parents constantly question the schools authority outside or off of school grounds when it relates to bullying such as things that occur on Facebook or outside events. He asked if Dr. Goodin felt that some of that plays into the parent expectations of what the school has authority over. Dr. Goodin replied that he believes that all of this goes back to the fact that bullying is such a prevalent topic right now as everyone is talking about it, it is in the newspapers, and is a part of school programming from an early age on up.

Mr. Dehnert commented that he thinks it would be interesting to see what the staff says about this and Dr. Goodin replied that all of that information will be in the entire survey posted online.

Mr. DiBello stated that this is the 2nd year we are surveying staff, parents and students and it is a very useful tool as it allows us to look at areas we are succeeding in and areas that we want to focus on a little bit more. Mr. DiBello said he honestly would be upset if everything was 95% - 100% positive as he would feel these types of results were not exactly true. Mr. DiBello stated that he is encouraged by the fact that we are getting good positive feedback, we continue to implement new strategies and new programs and we are raising the bar towards educational excellence in the district. He added that he believes the surveys will get tougher over the years because the expectations will be even higher because they have raised them higher with the programs implemented such as the additional AP Courses that were added to the curriculum. Mr. DiBello stated that he is very encouraged by this and is excited that we are doing this as it is very positive and gives the board a peek into where we need to continue focusing our efforts.

Dr. Goodin said he agrees with Mr. DiBello and stated that he has received many comments from people in the community saying they appreciated the opportunity to be surveyed and give their opinion on different ideas and matters facing the district. Dr. Goodin stated when you look at 90% overall satisfaction in the community those are pretty high numbers but there is always room for improvement.

- A. **Dr. David Goodin**, Superintendent, to give an Executive Summary on the Parent/Community Climate Survey.

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved the January 22, 2013 Work Session minutes.
- B. The Board approved the February 13, 2013 Special Meeting minutes.

IV. **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum/Technology Julie Mullin 1st Tues. 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Mullin reported that the Curriculum/Technology Committee met on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 and on the technology side they discussed the iPads that were rolled out at the 7th Grade Center as part of the refresh and they will be rolled out at Evans by March 8th. The committee also discussed moving the registration process towards being done electronically which will be a huge accomplishment. On the curriculum side of the meeting the committee received an update on the Spring City Hybrid Project, discussed the AP Courses that are being added to the High School curriculum, options for the future on how to help defray the costs of the AP Exams for students, the possibility of early graduation, and continued the work on the Global International Studies. Mrs. Mullin reported that they had a fairly lengthy discussion on mid-term exams, this year's schedule and the schedules going forward. They discussed PSSA Testing and the Keystone Exams with regards to the Curriculum and Instruction Budget. Mrs. Mullin stated that lastly and a big item for her is the discussion and recommendation to the Board to hire an Assistant Director of Curriculum. Mrs. Mullin commented that Dr. Floyd has done some amazing things since he came to the district and this is evident by the amount of agenda items on the Curriculum Committee agenda but one person cannot continue to do this himself. Mrs. Mullin stated that the committee supports the proposal to get Dr. Floyd some help.

Mr. Dehnert commented that based on last week's meeting and the presentation from Oaks he thinks we need to have an initiative that we need to create reporting of measuring academic changes from the implementation of technology in the different schools. Mrs. Mullin replied that they are working towards that but right now to put the technology in the classroom there is no way to measure it because there are no set expectations to it being used. Mrs. Mullin stated that Dr. Floyd is setting up the guidelines. Mrs. Mullin said right now you might be expecting to see better grades in a classroom because they have a Whiteboard when the board may not ever be used. Mrs. Mullin commented that she thinks we need to get the guidelines in place first before we start measuring anything. Mr. Dehnert said he thinks we need more than grades because grades don't necessarily show improvement or decline. Mrs. Mullin stated that no matter what you are measuring if the technology is not being used then there is nothing to measure so that is why we are

putting the guidelines in place and once the expectations are set and rolled out then we can come up with measurements to see how the technology is advancing or not in the classroom. Mrs. Mullin added that right now there are not any minimum expectations so you could put 30 iPads in a room and 6 Whiteboards and currently there are no expectations for them to be used at this point. Mrs. Mullin said we need to get the expectations in place first before we can start measuring the effect of the technology in the classroom. Mr. Dehnert commented that we should not be putting them in place or buying them if we do not know how they are going to be used. Mr. Dehnert said it does not make sense to put them in place if the curriculum does not say how they are going to use that technology in the classroom. Mrs. Mullin replied that there is no technology curriculum and it hasn't existed but we have been replenishing the computers for years. Mr. Dehnert said he is talking about the new things we are implementing such as what was presented last week. Mr. Dehnert said we need to track and report whether these new things make an improvement because it helps decide how much we want to expand that technology. Mr. Dehnert said he believes it is more of an administration initiative than a curriculum committee initiative because they are the people that should know the measures we have in place and can put in place to measure changes in achievement based on the technology that is rolled out.

Mr. Pettit asked Dr. Floyd if there were plans to set up some sort of baseline based on Mr. Dehnert's comments. Dr. Floyd replied yes and with the implementation of any tool there are going to be different variables in there. Dr. Floyd reported that they are looking at the technology refresh to use the new draft guidelines and skills as a foundation for determining how technology will be used in an instructional manner. Dr. Floyd said the target for now is to get the baseline in place first so that we have a solid foundation to work off of.

Mr. DiBello stated that for years the district has invested millions and millions of dollars into technology he has sat here for 3 years and has said numerous times that we should not make an investment in technology until we have a partnership with curriculum. Mr. DiBello said we need to look at how curriculum and technology are married. Mr. DiBello stated that it is not the technology that is going to make our students perform better but it is how we are using the technology, how curriculum is wrapped around it and what the expectations of the curriculum is and how we are using the technology to meet those expectations. Mr. DiBello said the district for years spent millions of dollars on a refresh program to buy computers to stick all around the district, labs galore, computers in the classrooms and there is no emphasis on how the curriculum fits into this other than students using the computers to work on projects. Mr. DiBello supported the work Mrs. Mullin and the Curriculum/Technology Committee have been doing with Dr. Floyd and said he would definitely support the Assistant Director of Curriculum and Instruction.

Mrs. Mullin commented that this is why the rollout went the way it did and although there has been some disappointment as far as timelines this is the first year we did not replenish computers just because it was time to refresh them. Mr. Reynolds met with teachers in the buildings and they discussed how to tie it into the curriculum. Mrs. Mullin stated this is the direction we are moving and we must walk before we can run so we cannot set up measurements of its success as we are still in the middle of putting out the game plan.

Mr. Dehnert asked if what was being said was that all of the technology in our classrooms today is not wrapped around any curriculum and is just being used as

teachers see fit. Mrs. Mullin said that was correct and there was no minimum expectation on how it is to be used. Mr. Dehnert asked if Dr. Goodin agreed with this and Dr. Goodin said when you look at technology you are looking at an educational tool, a means by which we can further advance instructional practice. He added that we must recognize that our students today are digital natives and are hard wired to learn in the fashion they are currently learning. Dr. Goodin stated that for many years students have been doing reports but now they have the capability to access video clips for their reports and various sources via the internet. Dr. Goodin commented that it is a slow evolution that is happening in education and we are having to retool ourselves in order to teach kids using these tools in an effective manner.

Mr. Dehnert asked again if we have any technology wrapped around the curriculum we have as we have a lot of technology. Dr. Goodin gave an example of a Social Studies teacher who may have SMARTboards or iPads in their classroom and they may use them as a tool but there would not be a focus in that class as to how to use that tool.

Mr. Roche commented that we do not have technology that is consistent across every classroom so it is nearly impossible to write curriculum that is going to be designed to interface with every classroom. You would need two sets of curriculum, one for teachers who have SMARTboards and one for those with classic chalkboards. Mr. Roche stated that it is his understanding that as these technology tools are being rolled out they are going to teachers who are best prepared to use them and engage students with these tools.

Mr. Dehnert questioned whether we have any software that teaches kids to read at the elementary level or math software that is used in the curriculum to help the kids improve. Mr. Roche replied that there are software programs that students utilize either through the computer lab or through computers located in the back of their classrooms. Mr. Roche commented that this all ties into what Dr. Floyd is talking about with minimum expectations for students coming out of one grade and advancing to another.

Mr. DiBello stated that at the Hybrid Learning Center at Spring City money was invested into curriculum and technology and they are utilizing a curriculum that we are partnered with a couple of organizations using the software and curriculum they developed on technology through iPads. Mr. DiBello stated that there are some schools and Spring City is one of them where there is a defined curriculum. Mr. DiBello said that Mrs. Mullin has been reporting over the past year that the Curriculum Committee and Dr. Floyd have been working aggressively to get consistency across the board within our curriculum and utilize technology. Mr. DiBello stated that one of the first steps was for Mr. Reynolds to work with the teachers at Evans Elementary to define a plan and look at what kind of technology would be better utilized and more in alignment with what their studies are. Mr. DiBello said he believes we are a couple of years away from having curriculum across the board that is going to be utilized in all of our elementary schools or middle schools. Mr. DiBello said that over the past couple of years we have recognized the fact that we are very consistent with being inconsistent within our elementary schools. Mr. DiBello stated that the Curriculum Committee has been very focused on moving towards that consistency. Mr. DiBello stated that this has not been in place the last couple of years but it has been the focus of this board and the current administration to get the consistency and make a better investment of technology so it can be better utilized in the classrooms. Mr. DiBello commented that the way we measure this is by the success of

our students because we are not measuring the technology but how well the students are learning and adapting to the curriculum.

Mr. Dehnert asked if when the classes go to the computer labs if they are following a designed structure or do they just go and Mrs. Heine stated that they are working on their classroom instruction. Mr. Dehnert asked that administration respond. Mr. Roche replied that there are certain software programs that they are designed to work with and students are not just going into the labs to surf the internet but are going in there for a purpose to work on a certain set of skills or project. Mr. Dehnert stated that this would be part of the curriculum and Mr. Roche replied that was correct in terms of accomplishing whatever the curricular goal was. Mr. Dehnert commented that students are then are using technology tools as part of the curriculum.

Mrs. Mullin stated that it is different from building to building as there is no district curriculum. She stated that Upper Providence could be doing something very different in the computer lab than what Oaks is doing. She commented that there is not a district-wide curriculum for what is going on in the computer lab. Mr. Roche gave an example of a project on Pennsylvania history and one teacher could choose to take the class to the computer lab to work on a portfolio or tri-fold brochure on the computer where another teacher could choose to take them to the art room to make the same type of tri-fold using construction paper, markers and crayons. Mr. Roche stated that the curriculum is being accomplished as they are learning the Pennsylvania history unit but the difference is how the students are being engaged.

Mr. Dehnert questioned when the technology was bought whether it was bought with any purpose of incorporating it specifically into the curriculum. Mr. Roche stated that he could not comment on what it was purchased for at the time it was purchased.

Mr. DiBello asked if there was a point that Mr. Dehnert was trying to get to and Mr. Dehnert said he is just asking questions because he keeps asking the question and he keeps getting different answers.

Mrs. Mullin stated that Mr. Dehnert has gotten the same answer from the Curriculum Committee and that was that there was no district-wide technology curriculum and no minimum expectations for a teacher to use technology. Mr. Dehnert asked if this isn't something that should be developed at the curriculum director's level where it is pointed out that we are doing this at one school and should be doing it everywhere else. Mrs. Mullin said it is and part of the problem with what happened with the Oaks presentation last week is that the technology is being rolled out at Evans and Oaks Elementary and Mr. Moyer are ahead of the roll out which is to nobody's fault. Mr. Dehnert stated his original question on whether we were going to have a method to report the change in achievement. Mrs. Heine said it is still a tool which is the bottom line. Mr. Dehnert questioned if we are going to incorporate this into the curriculum is it going to be designed for all schools to use uniformly. Mrs. Mullin replied that as Dr. Floyd said previously it is not a curriculum, they are guidelines, and we have to walk before we can run. Mrs. Mullin said we cannot measure something where there are no expectations to use it and we have to get those guidelines in place in order to measure.

Mr. DiBello commented that we measure curriculum and we measure student success and we have all of that in place today. Mr. DiBello said we keep going back to technology is not the end all and be all of student success but it is an enabler or tool of the

curriculum. Mr. DiBello said all we are talking about is that there is technology available for use by the teachers and it has to be incorporated into the curriculum.

Dr. Floyd commented that they are working towards is a foundational starting point to guarantee a level playing field. He stated that we can always measure student achievement based upon a baseline. Dr. Floyd stated that we can still measure achievement but wanted to caution that it is not one specific tool that is causing the achievement. Dr. Floyd stated that we are constantly looking at data and measuring the level of student achievement and we are very fortunate in our district as we have a high level of achievement but we can always get better.

Extracurricular

Tom DiBello

2nd Mon. 6:00 p.m.

Mr. DiBello reported that the Extracurricular Committee met on February 11 and had a presentation by the Arboretum Club. He stated that there are currently 16 members of the Arboretum club and they meet monthly and participate in fundraisers. He reported that the students are working with the Western Center students on the Arboretum Project. The Committee also had a presentation from the middle school regarding the intramural programs. The intramural programs have high student participation and the programs are geared towards kids who want to participate in some activity but do not want to necessarily be tied directly to a school team. Mr. DiBello stated that this gives students an opportunity to learn and have fun. Mr. DiBello reported that Bill Racich gave a presentation on middle school athletics where he stated that a total of 280 students tried out for various sports.

MCIU

Tom DiBello

4th Weds. 7:45 p.m.

Mr. DiBello reported that the main focus was the MCIU budget. The new building is being refurbished so that they can move into it. Mr. DiBello reported that there has been some movement in both at the state and federal level. Mr. DiBello stated that there has been some changeover taking place and there are a lot of ideas on the table dealing with charter school reform, PSER reform and property tax reform. Mr. DiBello reported that at the federal level sequestration is the big thing and if it does go through then it could mean a 9%-10% cut which could be as much as \$200,000 – \$300,000 loss for Spring-Ford. Mr. DiBello stated that we will have to wait and see what happens come Friday. Mr. Anspach stated that so much is subsidized by the government and when they start to take this away it will hurt. Mr. Pettit stated that with the sequestration thing they are talking about no actual cuts, nothing is going to change, as it is a cut from projected additional spending. Mr. Pettit stated that we should not be losing anything because they are only talking about cutting a projected cost and not the present cost. Mr. Pettit stated that he thinks we are all being snickered.

PSBA Liaison

Edward Dressler

No report.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David Goodin

Dr. Goodin reminded everyone that the school calendar was adjusted to make up for us already using our emergency days. Dr. Goodin reported that between now and March 27th if we were to miss any days due to weather related issues or other emergencies then our first make up day would be March 27th. Dr. Goodin reported that there are 3 days designated in the revised calendar for make up days and those days are March 27, March 28 and April 1st. Dr. Goodin reminded everyone that this weekend at the high school the musical "Little Shop of Horrors" will be presented and also on Friday evening the Spring-Ford Chamber of

Commerce will be hosting their Annual Spaghetti Dinner and event is held in support of their scholarship fund. Dr. Goodin announced that the High School Girls' Basketball Team have advanced into the district playoffs and will play this Wednesday evening at Norristown at 7:30 and when they win they will play on Friday evening at Villanova for the district championship.

V. PERSONNEL

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items A-H and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

A. Resignations:

1. **Samantha Alexander**, Lacrosse Coach-Girls, 7th Grade Center.
Effective: January 31, 2013.
2. **Kevin Czapor**, Assistant Lacrosse Coach-Boys, Senior High School.
Effective: January 14, 2013.

B. Leaves of Absence:

1. **Michele D. Cabot**, Royersford Elementary School; Nurse, per Board Policy.
Effective: February 11, 2013 for an extended unpaid leave of absence through the end of the 2012/2013 school year.
2. **Catherine W. Cabrera**, Oaks Elementary School; Speech Teacher, per Board Policy. Effective: February 11, 2013 for a military leave through the end of the 2012/2013 school year.
3. **Helen E. Johnstone**, 9th Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, per Board Policy.
Effective: February 5, 2013 for an extended leave of absence through March 22, 2013.
4. **Clyde F. Kring**, 5/6th Grade Center; Custodial, per Board Policy. Effective: January 7, 2013 for a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
5. **Tina M. Romano**, 5/6th Grade Center; Elementary Teacher, per Board Policy.
Effective: February 6, 2013 for a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
6. **Corrine P. Rudloff**, 10-12 Grade Center; Art Teacher, per Board Policy.
Effective: on or about April 15, 2013 for a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
7. **Lindsey F. Waltermeyer**, 5/6th Grade Center; Elementary Teacher, per Board Policy. Effective: on or about April 29, 2013 for a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
8. **Nina F. Wickersham**, Brooke Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, per the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Effective: April 11, 2013 for an extension of child rearing leave through the end of the 2012/2013 school year.

New Leaves Of Absence

9. **Erik B. Ammon**, Brooke Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, per Board Policy. Effective: March 1, 2013 for a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
10. **Stephanie E. Breccia**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, per Board Policy. Effective: February 7, 2013 for a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
11. **David G. Phillips**, 8th Grade Center; Science Teacher, per Board Policy. Effective: February 11, 2013 for a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
12. **Julie L. Stadulis**, Evans Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, per Board Policy. Effective: April 7, 2013 for a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
13. **Crystal C. Stubbs**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Special Education Teacher, for an uncompensated leave per Board Policy. Effective: August 19, 2013 for the first semester of the 2013-2014 school year.

C. Long Term Substitute Employees:

1. **Alyssa J. Palaia**, Brooke Elementary School; 3rd Grade Teacher, extension of current assignment; replacing Nina Wickersham who will be on an extended Leave of Absence. Compensation will be set at B Step 1, \$43,200 prorated with benefits. Effective: January 30, 2013 through the end of the 2012/2013 school year.
2. **Emily E. Belisario**, 5/6th Grade Center; Special Education Teacher, replacing Kelly Finn who will be on a Leave of Absence. Compensation will be set at B Step 1, \$43,200 prorated with benefits. Effective: February 12, 2013 through the end of the 2012/2013 school year.

New Long Term Substitute Employee

3. **Laura P. Bonner**, Spring City Elementary School; 4th Grade Elementary Teacher. Compensation will be set at M, Step 1, \$45,700, prorated. Effective: February 25, 2013 through the end of the 2012-2013 school year.
4. **Dana L. Rosenblum**, 5/6th Grade Center; Special Education Teacher, replacing Kathleen Grispon who will be on a leave of absence. Compensation will be set at M, Step 1, \$44,500, prorated. Effective February 11, 2013 through the end of the 2012-2013 school year.

D. Extra-Curricular Contract: High School

1. **Samantha Alexander**, Assistant Lacrosse Coach-Girls, \$3991

New Extra-Curricular Contract: High School

2. **Brandon J. Foose**, Assistant Wrestling Coach (split contract) \$2,594.50

E. Support Staff Substitute:

1. **Andrea J. Rabena** Food Service

New Support Staff Substitute:

2. **Laraine L. Livergood** Food Service

F. Personnel Information Item

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

1. **Andrea L. Sandberg** Elementary Education
Early Childhood Education
Mid-Level English
Mid-Level Math
2. **Margaret A. Smith** Special Education

New Personnel Items

G. Professional Staff Substitutes

1. **George M. Gaul** Spanish, French
2. **Kylene M. Malone** Elementary, Special Education

H. The Board approved an agreement with the Spring-Ford Education Association and Kathleen Grispon for a sabbatical leave for medical purposes beginning on March 12, 2013 through the end of the 2012-2013 school year and approve her resignation for the purpose of retirement effective on the last teacher work day of the 2012-2013 school year or June 14, 2013; whichever is later.

VI. FINANCE

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-J and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

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

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

1. ***OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Capital Projects Checks held for Board approval

*Check No. 32772 – 32775 \$ 40,611.50

B. 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.

C. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

January

Check No. 148700 – 148768	\$ 372,922.39
ACH 121300315 – 121300324	\$ 1,210.75

February

Check No. 148769 – 148896	\$ 491,210.86
ACH 121300325 – 121300332	\$ 383.39

2. Athletic Fund

January

Check No. 305403 – 305553	\$ 27,353.98
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3. Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting

*Check No. 148897 – 148938	\$ 660,588.81
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4. Board Checks held for approval

*Check No. 148939 – 148968	\$ 27,050.40
ACH 121300333 - 121300360	\$ 3,987.18

D. The Board approved the following **independent contracts**:

1. **Dr. Jim Cianciulli – Jeffersonville, PA.** Conduct neuropsychological testing and provide an educational report for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$2,500.00.
2. **Lisa Kowalski – Norristown, PA.** Provide instructional services for extracurricular activities for a special needs student. Services will be provided for a total of 72 hours at a rate of \$30.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$2,160.00.
3. **Anderson Explorations Partial Hospitalization Placement – Norristown, PA.** Provide special education and mental health services for 2 students as per their IEPs. Costs will include educational expenses at \$78.00 per day and potentially mental health services at a rate of \$94.50 per day. Each student will be in the placement for a minimum of 6 weeks and a maximum of 12 weeks. The total cost, depending on need, will range from \$10,350.00 to a maximum of \$20,700.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$20,700.00.
4. **Kaleidoscope Family Solutions, Inc. – Bryn Mawr, PA.** Provide direct Speech and Language Therapy for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 7 hours per day for a total of 45 days at a rate of \$80.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$25,200.00.
5. **Stevie Boulden – Phoenixville, PA.** Provide an educational assembly on ways to care for homeless animals in need. The assembly is sponsored by Mainline Animal Rescue out of Chester Springs, PA for students at Limerick Elementary. There is no cost for this assembly.

6. **Science Explorers – Blue Ball, PA.** Provide an assembly entitled “Super Science Program – Kooky Concoctions” for students at Spring City Elementary. Funding will be paid from the Spring City Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$2,080.00.
7. **Sadecky’s Puppets – Tarentum, PA.** Provide an assembly entitled “New Friends” for students at Brooke Elementary. Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$750.00.
8. **Matt Novak – Carlisle, PA.** Provide a 3-day Artist in Residence Program for students at Evans Elementary focusing on writing skills. The program will also include an evening family presentation. Funding will be split between the Evans Elementary Assembly Budget and the Evans Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$3,000.00.
9. **The Hilarious Magic of Sam Sandler – Spring Mount, PA.** Provide a dental health magic show for the students at Spring City Elementary. Funding will be paid by the Spring City Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$425.00.
10. **Pride of Erin, School of Irish Dance – Holland, PA.** Provide an Irish Dance performance for all students at Upper Providence Elementary School. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$100.00.

NEW FINANCE

E. The following Treasurers’ Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market – January 2013
- PSDLAF – January 2013
- PSDMAX – January 2013
- Checking Account – January 2013
- PLGIT Account – January 2013
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule - January 2013
- Payroll Account – January 2013
- Tax Account – January 2013

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – January 2013
- 7th Grade Activity – January 2013
- 8th Grade Activity – January 2013
- High School Activity – January 2013
- Athletic Account – January 2013

Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – January 2013

Other Funds

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

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – January 2013
- Cafeteria Checking Account – January 2013
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – January 2013
- Investment Account – January 2013

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

JANUARY

Check No. 11072- 11099 \$ 252,957.43

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

Permits No. 4373 – 4382

H. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2012-2013 school year:

Upper Providence Township Exonerations No. 266 - 291

I. The Board approved the following **additions/deletions** to the per capita tax for the 2012-2013 school year:

Royersford Borough Additions	No. 007 - 018
Royersford Borough Deletions	No. 201 – 293
Upper Providence Township Additions	No. 017 – 019
Upper Providence Township Deletions	No. 023 – 254

J. The Board approved entering into an agreement with ‘OIG Compliance Now, LLC’ to provide monthly Sanction Screening of Employees and Contracted Employees who participate in Federal Health Care Programs (Medical Access billing) per Board Policy #831. This compliance is mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare Bureau of Program Integrity; Bulletin #99-11-05. The maximum cost will be \$2,500 per year which will be offset by each participating vendor’s payment of \$200/yr.

VII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

A. The Board approved the 2013 Extended School Year (ESY) Program and positions identified below to be held at Upper Providence Elementary School and the 5/6th Grade Center. The program will run Monday through Thursday from June 27, 2013 and July 1, 2013 through August 1, 2013 (except July 4th) from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

1. Twenty-one (21) Special Education Teachers at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
2. Ten (10) Teachers to work as tutors at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
3. Four (4) Speech Therapists at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.

- 4. Forty-one (41) Instructional Assistants at a rate of \$12.70 per hour.
 - 5. One (1) Certified School Nurse or Registered Nurse to work 5 hours per day from July 1, 2013 through August 1, 2013 (except July 4, 2013) at all ESY Schools at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
- B. The Board approved the following new course for the 2013-2014 school year. Board approval is requested so that administration may begin the process of planning for curriculum development, budgeting, and inclusion of the course in the student's course guide.

NEW COURSE FOR SPRING-FORD SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL 2013-2014

This major course will provide a higher level course offering for those students interested in Environmental Science and will enrich the curriculum of Spring-Ford's Science Program. This AP course will provide an opportunity to qualified students to expand their knowledge of scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them.

AP Environmental Science is intended for students who wish to complete a high school class that is equivalent to college introductory courses in Environmental Science.

This course would be open to any qualified junior or senior student.

Staffing:

Current staff would be utilized if enrollment numbers warrant.

Cost:

Initial Curriculum Development (12.0 Hours)	\$ 360.00
AP Training	\$2,000.00
Textbooks	<u>\$4,740.00</u>
TOTAL	\$7,100.00*

* This course was made possible via a grant (\$7,100.00) through the College Board, Google, & Donors Choice.

- C. The Board approved entering into a contract with Optimo Information Technology, LLC for the development and first year support of the Spring-Ford Area School District Application (App) for the iPhone and Android Smart Phones. The total cost for this contract shall not exceed \$6,950.00 and shall be paid from the Technology Budget.

VIII. PROPERTY

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

- A. The Board approved the option for an extension of the Turf Maintenance Mowing and Trimming bid with Black Forest Landscaping for the 2013 mowing season in the amount of \$1,225.00 per mowing for all elementary schools with the exception of

Upper Providence Elementary School, which is completed in-house. The original bid was awarded in January 2011 and will be extended for the third year option. Funding will come from the General Fund – Maintenance Budget.

- B. The Board approved receiving Requests for Proposals and entering into an agreement which would offer the school district the best kilowatt hour rate for electrical usage for the 2013-2014 school year with an additional three year option. Funding will come from the General Fund – Maintenance Budget.

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items A-I and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Dehnert asked about Item G wondering why the Montgomery County Superintendents were going to meeting in Hershey instead of Montgomery County. Dr. Goodin replied he did not know the reason for this. Mr. Dehnert asked if it was just Montgomery County Superintendents and Dr. Goodin replied yes.

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. **Edward Dressler, Jr.**, Board Member, and **Dr. David Goodin**, Superintendent, to Attend the *“PSBA Seminar – Teacher Effectiveness for Student Success”* at the Bucks County Intermediate Unit in Doylestown, PA on April 10, 2013. The total cost for this seminar is 278.00 from the 580 account for registration and mileage. No substitutes are needed.
- B. **Bruce Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations and Facilities, to attend the *“Asbestos Certification-Recertification Course”* in New Cumberland, PA on April 4, 2013. The total cost for this conference is \$150.00 from the 580 account for registration. No substitute is needed.
- C. **Timothy Anspach**, Business Manager, to attend the *“PASBO Conference”* in Pittsburgh, PA from March 19 through March 22, 2013. The total cost for this conference is \$965.00 from the 580 account for registration, mileage, lodging and meals.

HIGH SCHOOL

- D. **Maren Bhalla**, College Career Coordinator, to attend *“Catholic Colleges Tour of Northeastern PA”* at Misericordia University, Kings College, The University of Scranton, and Marywood University from April 22 through April 24, 2013. There is no cost to the district for this as all costs are covered by the colleges.

- E. **Mary Ann Group**, AP Science Teacher, to attend “*Advanced Placement Summer Institute in Biology*” at Camden County College in Blackwood, NJ from August 5 through August 8, 2013. The total cost for this training is \$850.00 from the 580 account for registration. No substitute is required.
- F. **Yvonne O’Dea**, Choral Director, to attend “*PMEA (PA Music Educator’s Association) Annual Conference*” in Erie, PA from April 17 through April 20, 2013. Mrs. O’Dea will be accompanying those students who advanced to All-State Choir as well as participating in the conference. The total cost for this conference is \$1280.00 (\$830.00 from the 580 account for registration, mileage, meals, lodging and \$450.00 for a substitute for 3 days).

NEW CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

- G. **Dr. David R. Goodin**, Superintendent, to attend “*Montgomery County Superintendent’s Study Council Conference*” in Hershey, PA from April 17 through April 19, 2013. The total cost for this conference is \$150.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- H. **Shannon Dallahan, Patricia Flynn, Jessica Hauseman and Nicholas Lemuell**, Guidance Counselors, to attend “*American School Counselor Association 2013 Annual Conference*” in Philadelphia, PA from June 30 through July 3, 2013. The total cost for this conference is \$2,136.00 for registration and mileage. There is no cost to the district as all fees are being paid from the Pennsylvania Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant. No substitutes are needed.
- I. **Mary C. Palladino**, Teacher, to attend “*AP Reading – Statistics*” in Kansas City, Missouri from June 10, 2013 through June 18, 2013. Mrs. Palladino has been selected by the College Board to serve as a reader for the 2013 AP Statistics Exam. There is no cost to the district as all expenses are being paid by The College Board. No Substitute is needed.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Heine made a motion for Items A, B, D and Mr. Dehnert seconded it.

Mr. DiBello recognized the Oaks PTA for their generous donation for the purpose of purchasing six SMART Boards for the 1st and 2nd grade classrooms.

Mr. Heine wanted to recognize the Girls’ Basketball Team’s Coaches and Mr. McDaniel for all they have done to raise the bar on the girls’ basketball program. Mrs. Heine commended them on being one of only 22 teams who were invited to the “Battle for Atlantis” Tournament.

The motion passed 7-0.

A. The following policies were approved:

1. Policy #210 – PUPILS: Use of Medications
2. Policy #210.1 - PUPILS: Possession/Use of Asthma Inhalers/Epinephrine Auto Injectors

- B. The Board acknowledged the acceptance of the donation from the Oaks Elementary School PTA to purchase and install six (6) Smart classroom presentation systems for the 1st and 2nd grade classrooms. The total amount of this donation will be \$3,594.99 per classroom for a total of \$21,569.94.
- C. The following policies are submitted for a first reading:
 - 1. Policy #345 – ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES: Staff-Student Communication/Relations
 - 2. Policy #445 – PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES: Staff-Student Communication/Relations
 - 3. Policy #545 – CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: Staff-Student Communication/Relations

New Other Business

- D. The Board gave approval for the High School Girls' Basketball Team to accept the invitation to participate in "The High School Battle for Atlantis" Basketball Tournament from December 4 through December 9, 2013 in Paradise Island, Bahamas. The team will participate in a pool of eight teams from different parts of the county and will play three games in the tournament to crown a champion. The games played are part of the 2013-2014 schedule which allows a maximum of 22 contests as per PIAA by-laws. The total cost per student-athlete will be approximately \$999.00 plus transportation. The High School Girls' Basketball Program and staff will conduct fundraising events from February 2013 through December 2013 to help defray the costs. Students will miss a maximum of three days of school and will be responsible for any missed work. The total cost to the district will be \$900.00 for substitutes for the three days for the coaches (Jeff Rinehimer and Jeff Mast).

XI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report.

XII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Michael Alexander from State Representative, Mark Painter's office stated that he is happy to be here again. He announced that this week at their office they will be hosting two FASFA events, tomorrow 4-8 and Saturday 10-2. Their address of their office is 600 Heritage Drive, Suite 102, Sanatoga, PA. During these events they will be helping students with the process of filling out FASFA applications.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Heine made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
Board Secretary