

On March 22, 2004, the board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:45 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Region I: | Michael V. Masciandro and Raymond J. Rocchio, Jr. |
| Region II: | Ammon Morgan, Janet A. Stokes, and Donna L. Williams |
| Region III: | Joseph P. Ciresi, Ed Cummins, and Richard J. Schroeder |
| Presiding Officer: | Bernard F. Pettit |
| Solicitor: | Marc Davis, Esq. |

I. DISTRICT GOALS

Mr. Masciandro presented a list of goals and recommendations for the district that would be posted on the district website. (See enclosed.) He said that he wanted the district goals to be kept on the agenda to keep it in front of the board. Costs that might be incurred by the goals were briefly discussed.

II. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Denise Simms, Summerchase Apts., Limerick
Spoke about her son who is on the football team and who was called a racial epithet and questioned the disciplining of other students involved. Spoke about an incident where her family was harassed by Spring-Ford students and that the police did nothing. Said her son is now in an alternative school. Said her children live in fear and she questioned the safety of the learning environment. Mr. Pettit thanked her for her comments and said what occurred is unacceptable in this community. Mr. Schroeder thanked her and said that he expected personnel to handle kids even-handedly whether they are athletes, average students or minority students.

Mr. Pettit said that there was an executive session regarding personnel before the board meeting. He added that there will be an executive session at the end of the board meeting regarding real estate.

III. PRESENTATION

- A. Bern Pettit presented the Boys' Basketball Team and Dave Caldwell, basketball coach, **Resolution 2004-6** in recognition of winning the PAC-10 Championship.
- B. Bern Pettit presented the Spring-Ford Hockey Club **Resolution 2004-7** in recognition of their outstanding season.

- C. Dr. Dennis Harken, Executive Director and Alan Clark, Assistant Director of the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit, made a presentation regarding the MCIU budget. Mr. Schroeder asked why the cost for Spring-Ford was higher than for the other districts. Dr. Harken said costs were based on enrollment and wealth of the school district. Market value and growth were key factors that pushed up the value of the school district. These assessments are based on state regulations not the IU's, he added. Dr. Coale thanked him for his availability and good advice over the past 30 years.
- D. Shirley Rhoads, assistant business manager, made a presentation as to what parents can expect in transportation with the new grade configurations. There was a discussion of making up the hours during the regular school day from modified kindergarten being called due to snow. Dr. Coale said when possible, the time is made up during field trip scheduling.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item A. Mrs. Williams seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of the February 17, 2004 work session minutes.

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to TABLE Item B. Mrs. Williams seconded it. It was approved 8-1 with Mr. Cummins voting no. The board directed that the minutes include comments Mrs. Bryant said were left out.

- B. The board TABLED the February 23, 2004 board meeting minutes.

V. PERSONNEL

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items A-K. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of the following **resignations**, with regret:
 1. **Richard S. Kistler**, Reading Teacher at the Middle School, for the purpose of retirement, effective July 12, 2004.
 2. **James F. Antonik**, Instructional Asst. at the Middle School, effective March 5, 2004.
 3. **Celeste Bunczk**, Human Resources Office Secretary, effective March 15, 2004. Ms. Bunczk has accepted the Secretarial Position in the Staff Development Office.
 4. **Robert J. Robinson**, Custodian, for the purpose of retirement, effective July 14, 2004.
 5. **Bruce D. Brobst**, 9th Grade Baseball Coach, effective March 3, 2004.

- B. The board approved of the following **leaves of absence**:
1. **Adria Angstadt**, Learning Support Teacher at Oaks Elementary School, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively April 5, 2004.
 2. **Barbara Urner**, Gifted Support Teacher for the district, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Board Policy, effective February 17, 2004 until the end of the 2003/2004 school year.
 3. **Angie Cressman**, Instructional Asst. at the Intermediate School, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Board Policy, effective tentatively April 30, 2004 until the end of the 2003/2004 school year.
- C. The board approved of **Melody Hendricks**, Mont Clare, PA, for the Secretarial Position in Human Resources replacing Celeste Bunczk who accepted another position in the district. Compensation will be set at \$12.00 an hour with benefits as per the Secretarial plan, effective March 23, 2004.
- D. The board approved of **Sherry Parsons**, Royersford, PA, for the Instructional Assistant Position at the Intermediate School replacing Lisa Wildauer who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$12.70 an hour with benefits as per the Assistant plan, effective March 23, 2004.
- E. The board approved of **Andrea Lorio Rees**, Norristown, PA, as Long Term Substitute for several Elementary schools a .5 Gifted Support Teacher replacing Ms. Barbara Urner for the remainder of the 2003-04 school year. Ms. Rees is a graduate of Chestnut Hill College with a Master's Degree and certification in Elementary Education and Penn State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Speech. Ms. Rees is currently a .5 Gifted Support teacher with the district. Compensation will be set at \$19,100, MS, Step 1, prorated for the .5 position, with benefits, effective retroactively to February 17, 2004.
- F. The board approved of the Job Description for Secretary, Human Resource Office (Attachment).
- G. The board approved of the following **independent contract(s)**:
1. **Carole Flounders**, to present an assembly entitled "Crusin not Boozing" to the students at the High School. There is no cost to the district and the assembly will be held on March 23, 2004. Funds are provided by Ted Claghorn, Current President of the Royersford Spring Company.
 2. **P. G. Productions**, to present two (2) 35 minute assembly performances with a unique blend of new vaudevillian skills and the educational value of the living arts. The cost of the programs will not

exceed \$800 and will be held on May 21, 2004. Funding will be provided by the Upper Providence Assembly Account.

3. **Yello Dyno Safety Programs**, West Chester, PA, to present an assembly on Safety. The cost of the program will not exceed \$765 and will be effective April 22 through April 23, 2004. Funding will be provided by the Upper Providence Assembly Account.
 4. **Numours Physicians Association, Dr. David V. Sheslow, Alfred L. DuPont Hospital for Children, Behavior Health and Psychology Division**, 1600 Rockland Road, Wilmington, DE to conduct an evaluation and provide a Neuropsychological Evaluation Report for a student with an IEP. The Evaluation will include Neuropsychological, psychological, academic testing, and the provision of a written report. The total contract will not exceed a total of one thousand four hundred and seventy one dollars (\$1,471.00). The contract will be paid from funds budgeted in the 2003-2004 Special Education Budget/General Fund.
 5. **KidsPeace, National Centers for Kids in Crisis**, Orefield, PA to provide Special Education Student Instruction per IEP. Services will be provided at the cost of \$130.00 per day for a period of seventy five (75) days. This service is retroactive to March 15, 2004 as required per the student's IEP. The total contract cost shall not exceed nine thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$9,750.00). Funding will be provided from dollars budgeted in the 2003-2004 Alternative Education Fund.
- H. The board approved of the following **extra-curricular/supplemental contract(s)** at the **High School**:
1. **Bruce Brobst**, Head Baseball Coach, \$3,668 Code D (Retroactive to the beginning of the season)
 2. **Kirsten Ferry**, Asst. Boys'/Girls' Track Coach, \$2,477 Code F
 3. **B. Casey Murphy**, Asst. Boys'/Girls' Track Coach, \$2,477 Code F
- I. The board approved of the following **extra-curricular/supplemental contract(s)** at the **Middle School**:
1. **Heather Carling**, Spring Play Director, \$1,140, Code J
 2. **Jaclyn Ritter**, Asst. Lacrosse Coach (Developmental Squad, \$1,715, Code H

- J. The board approved of the following **professional substitutes**:
1. **Kelly Ann Loughery**, Norristown, PA, Elementary Education from West Chester University, previously approved as a support staff substitute.
 2. **Catherine G. Palladino**, Pottstown, PA, Music Education from Temple University.
 3. **Genevieve L. Slaweki**, Trappe, PA, Elementary Education from Lebanon Valley College.
 4. **Alyssa M. Yergey**, Boyertown, PA, Art K-12 from Kutztown University.

- K. The board approved of the following **support substitutes**:
1. **Melody Hendricks**, Mont Clare, PA, Office/Clerical
 2. **Arnold M. Koehler, III**, Royersford, PA, Custodian/Maintenance
 3. **Anne Murphy**, Limerick, PA, Playground Assistant, (*previously approved as School Nurse and Instructional/Clerical Asst.*)
 4. **Wayne D. Nurnberg**, Limerick, PA, Custodian/Maintenance.
 5. **Cheryl L. Santiago**, Limerick, PA, Instructional/Clerical Asst., Office/Clerical, Playground/Lunchroom Asst. and Food Service.

AGENDA ADDENDUM

PERSONNEL

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of the **resignation**, for **Renee C. Berkhammer**, Learning Support Teacher at the Middle School, effective March 22, 2004.

VI. FINANCE

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items A-E. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of **MARCH**, in connection with the **SERIES G.O.B. 2000**:

1. INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

2. UPPER PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

| | | | |
|--|--|----|---------------|
| Audio Video Systems 2 VHS Camcorders & Bags | | \$ | 755.00 |
| Fox Rothschild LLP Professional Services (2 Inv) | | \$ | <u>275.00</u> |
| TOTAL | | \$ | 1,030.00 |

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

1. WINNIES PROJECT

| | | | |
|---|--|----|-----------------|
| Fox Rothschild LLP Professional Services (3 Inv.) | | \$ | 490.00 |
| Limerick Township Escrow | | \$ | <u>4,108.13</u> |
| TOTAL | | \$ | 4,598.13 |

2. INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

| | | | |
|--|--|----|-------------------|
| Fox Rothschild LLP Professional Services (2 Inv) | | \$ | 2,516.50 |
| Nicholas Pipino Inc. 189 Da-Lite Screens/Wall Brackets | | \$ | 11,141.55 |
| Schiller & Hersh Professional Services | | \$ | 14,202.00 |
| *DLR Group Professional Services | | \$ | 11,250.00 |
| *R.M. Shoemaker Applic. #27- General Contractor | | \$ | <u>527,595.00</u> |
| TOTAL | | \$ | 566,705.05 |

3. UPPER PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

| | | | |
|--|--|----|---------------|
| Fox Rothschild LLP Professional Services | | \$ | 2,301.51 |
| *DLR Group Professional Services | | \$ | <u>240.00</u> |
| TOTAL | | \$ | 2,541.51 |

C. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of **MARCH**, in connection with the **SERIES G.O.B. 2003:**

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

| | | | |
|--|--|----|-------------------|
| Fox Rothschild LLP Professional Services | | \$ | 60.00 |
| Up. Providence Twp Professional Services | | \$ | 20.00 |
| *DLR Group Professional Services | | \$ | <u>151,125.00</u> |
| TOTAL | | \$ | 151,205.00 |

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

Evaluation of Land Parcels

Potential Land Purchase

| | | | |
|---|--|----|---------------|
| Fox Rothschild LLP Professional Services | | \$ | 1,289.00 |
| *Simone Jaffe Collins Professional Services | | \$ | <u>498.66</u> |
| TOTAL | | \$ | 1,787.66 |

Phase II – Design Athletic Fields

| | | | |
|---|--|----|------------------|
| *Horst Excavating Co Applic. #3-Excavating Sitework | | \$ | <u>65,092.93</u> |
| TOTAL | | \$ | 65,092.93 |

- E. The board approved of next month's payroll, taxes, all benefits, transportation contracts, IU contracts, Vo-Tech payments, debt service payments, utility bills, maintenance agreements, copier leases, equipment maintenance, Federal grants, insurance, and discounted invoices:

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item F1-3 and F5. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

F. Checks:

- 1. February
Check No. 96318-96405 \$750,536.52
- 2. March
Check No. 96406-96608 \$571,708.45
- 3. Check List Held for March Board Approval
Check No. 96609-96770 \$ 79,528.24
- 5. Athletic Fund- March
Check No. 295799-295828 \$ 11,529.66

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item F4. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 8-0-1 with Mr. Schroeder abstaining.

- 4. Plotts Check
Check No. 96771 \$ 990.79

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items G-M. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

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

Upper Providence Township Deletions No. 1-467

- H. The board approved of the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

Checks #4970-5007 \$185,356.04

***NEW BUSINESS**

- I. The board approved of following Treasurers' Reports are submitted for your approval:
- General Fund – Checking Accounts – February 29, 2004
 - General Fund – Money Market – February 29, 2004
 - Payroll Account – February 29, 2004
 - General Fund – Tax Account – February 29, 2004
 - PSDLAF – General Fund – February 29, 2004
 - PSDMAX – General Fund – February 29, 2004
 - Naturium Fund – February 29, 2004
 - Flex CD – February 29, 2004
 - Athletic Fund – February 29, 2004
 - Investment Schedule – February 29, 2004
 - High School Activity Account – February 29, 2004
 - Middle School Activity Account – February 29, 2004
 - Capital Reserve Fund – February 29, 2004
 - Capital Reserve Investment Schedule – February 29, 2004
 - Debt Service Fund Account – February 29, 2004
 - Note of 2000 – February 29, 2004
 - Note of 2002 – February 29, 2004
 - Note of 2003 – February 2004
 - Cafeteria M/M Account – February 29, 2004
 - Cafeteria Checking Account – February 29, 2004
- J. The board approved of the following reports are submitted for your information:
- Cafeteria Savings Schedule
 - Cafeteria Investment Schedule
 - Cafeteria Participation Report
 - Use of Facilities Report
- K. The board approved of awarding of the **auditing contract** to Maillie, Falconiero & Company, Oaks, PA for auditing services for years ending June 30, 2004, June 30, 2005 and June 30, 2006 at a total award of \$50,250: \$15,000 per year for school district audit, \$500 per year for Education Foundation audit, and \$1,250 per Plan Con J Construction audit.
- L. The board approved of switching **Life Insurance carrier** to the PSBA Group Life Insurance Program through June 30, 2007. The Delaware Valley Group Life Insurance Consortium was able to get a one-year extension of the renewal guarantee for the CNA Program through June 30, 2005. CNA has sold their group Life Division to Hartford Insurance Company. The Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) has also made an offer. The PSBA Group Life Insurance Program (Fortis Benefits) currently insures in excess of 100 districts with approximately 2.5 Million in premium. They have offered us the opportunity to join their program and will match all of the current rated and plan design and, in addition, will offer a three-year rate guarantee through June 30, 2007. In addition to the rate guarantee, the program offers the opportunity for districts to earn a dividend. This offer could have not happened at a

better time since the district has experience a bad year (2002/2003) where claims exceeded the payments affecting our experience mode.

Mr. Schroeder asked if the board has to vote to accept the donation, regarding Item M. Dr. Coale said she can accept it. Anything that is built into the ground is placed on the agenda for board approval because of potential liability. Mr. Anspach added that it becomes an asset and it helps with insurance. The Home and School will pick up installation costs, he added.

- M. The board approved of acceptance the donation of funds from the Limerick Elementary Home & School Association to construct a **Pavilion** on the Limerick Elementary playground. The Pavilion is a 24ft x 24ft structure. The estimated cost is \$12,000.

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items N and O. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 9-0. Regarding Items N and O, Mr. Ciresi asked about the bidding process. A consortium is used with the MCIU for copier paper said Mr. Anspach. Other supplies are purchased through competitive bid.

- N. The board approved of authorization to seek bids for **supplies** for the 2004-2005 school year. Supplies would include but not be limited to custodial, art, general, medical, dental, physical education, science, technology education, and furniture.
- O. The board approved of authorization to participate in the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit **bid for Copier Paper** and other bids deemed to be advantageous for the 2004-2005 school year.
- P. Item P was deleted since it was already approved last month.

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items Q-T. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- Q. The board approved of the bids listed below for **telephone equipment** for the new Middle/Intermediate School. Bids were received from 4 vendors: A+ Telecom, Vibes Technologies, Empire Technologies, and Voice & Data Networks. The bids listed below represent the lowest per unit bid in each category. The bid specification was written to permit the District to award the bid for each equipment type independent of other awards. All other bids are rejected. The total expenditure from the Construction Fund is \$23,458.00.

1. Five Avaya 6402D Display phones @ \$94.50 each from Voice & Data Networks and 180 Avaya 6402 Non-display phones @ \$39.50 for a total cost of \$7582.50.
2. Three Lucent Paradyne CSUs @ \$250 each from Empire Technologies for a total cost of \$750.00.
3. Thirty Avaya 6408D Display phones @ \$159.50, ten Avaya 6416D Display phones @ \$179.50, and nine TN2224B Digital Circuit Pack

Cards @ \$949.50 from Vibes Technologies for a total cost of \$15125.50.

- R. The board approved of a lease of a new **AS400 computer** to support both Student Records and Business functions at the District Office. The existing AS400 has been in place for over five years, is nearing the end of support for the operating system, and uses parts that are becoming scarcer. Additionally, hard disk space on the existing system is starting to run low due to more users, more buildings, and added applications. The lease of the new AS400 will be through IBM and its local partner Tenex Systems, Inc. of King of Prussia. The hardware total is \$38,210 to be paid in monthly payments of \$1,128. Total cost of the lease will be \$40,608. In addition, Spring-Ford will purchase battery backup equipment at a cost of \$1,665, and software transfer and licensing fees of \$8,600. Although a July 2004 installation is planned, approval of this recommendation is requested at this time to ensure timely arrival of the equipment and to allow for District-preferred scheduling of installation and software transfer. Funding will come from the Technology Fund.
- S. The board approved of **Resolution 2004-5** regarding the **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit budget** for the general administrative services budget, curriculum and staff development services budget, State and Federal legislative services budget, and instructional materials services budget of the Intermediate Unit for the fiscal year July 1, 2004-June 30, 2005. (Presentation to be given at board meeting. Budget books were mailed to board members end of February.)
- T. The board approved of Ed Cummins as **representative to the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit** and Ammon Morgan as an alternative representative. Mr. Cummins is currently completing the term vacated by Mr. Grispon and Mr. Cummins needs to be nominated by the Spring-Ford Area School District board of directors.

VII. PROPERTY

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items A-G. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of having **Acton Mobile** remove the six rental portable units at the exiting Middle School at the end of 2003 - 2004 school year. The funds will come from the General Fund.
- B. The board approved of having **Acton Mobile** remove the four rental portable units at the existing Intermediate School at the end of 2003-2004 school year. The funds will come from the General Fund.
- C. The board approved of having **Williams Scotsman** remove the rental portable units at the existing Intermediate School at the end of 2003-2004 school year. The funds will come from the General Fund.

- D. Administration is recommending approval to go to bid to have the **six portable units** which the school district owns **demolished** and removed from the site at the end 2003-2004 school year. The funds will come from 2004-2005 Budget. The estimated cost is \$15,000.
- E. The board approved of **McMahon and Associates** to complete the necessary paperwork and to go out to bid as per their proposal of 2/27/04 to have the traffic light installed in front of the high school. The funds will come from General Funds. (Attachment)
- F. The board approved of the submission of **PlanCon D: Project Accounting Based on Estimates for the Ninth Grade Center.** (Attachment)
- G. The board approved of the submission of **PlanCon E: Design Development Board Transmittal for the Ninth Grade Center.** (Attachment)

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item H. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 8-1 with Mr. Morgan voting no. Mr. Morgan asked whether another traffic study would be necessary if the Winnies project is delayed a year. If the process is taken to final approval, the Township can not require another one said the solicitor.

- H. The board approved of the **updated traffic study** as requested by Limerick Township for the Winnies Project in the amount of \$6,500. Funding is from the Construction Project.

VIII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Items A-E. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of the Elementary Summer School Program to be offered at Royersford Elementary School. The focus will be on a **developmental and remedial math** program for students who have completed kindergarten through grade three as of June 2004. The dates for the program will be Monday, June 21 through Friday, July 23, 2004. A minimum of twelve students is necessary to operate each class and the number of students enrolled will determine the number of teachers employed. The cost this year is \$140.00 per class. Teacher salary will be calculated at the present rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. Subsequent to the approval by the Board, elementary principals will notify parents of this program. All money and applications for these courses must be completed and submitted to the attention of Dr. Marsha R. Hurda, Assistant Superintendent, by May 21, 2004. Classes that do not have a minimum of twelve enrolled by that date will be cancelled. The Elementary Summer School Program will be fully funded by tuition payments.

- B. The board approved of the Elementary Summer School Program to be offered at Royersford Elementary School. The focus will be on a **developmental and remedial reading** program for students who have completed kindergarten through grade three as of June 2004. The dates for the program will be Monday, June 21 through Friday, July 23 2004. A minimum of twelve students is necessary to operate each class and the number of students enrolled will determine the number of teachers employed. The cost this year is \$140.00 per class. Teacher salary will be calculated at the present rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. Subsequent to the approval by the Board, elementary principals will notify parents of this program. All money and applications for these courses must be completed and submitted to the attention of Dr. Marsha R. Hurda, Assistant Superintendent, by May 21, 2004. Classes that do not have a minimum of twelve enrolled by that date will be cancelled. The Elementary Summer School Program will be fully funded by tuition payments.
- C. The board approved of the Intermediate Summer School Program to be offered at the Intermediate School. The focus will be on a **developmental and remedial math** program for students who have completed fourth and fifth grade as of June 2004. The dates for the program will be Monday, June 21 through Friday, July 23, 2004. A minimum of twelve students is necessary to operate each class and the number of students enrolled will determine the number of teachers employed. The cost this year is \$140.00 per class. Teacher salary will be calculated at the present rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. Subsequent to the approval by the Board, parents of fourth and fifth grade students will be notified of this program. All money and applications for these courses must be completed and submitted to the attention of Dr. Marsha R. Hurda, Assistant Superintendent, by May 21, 2004. Classes that do not have a minimum of twelve enrolled by that date will be cancelled. The Intermediate Summer School Program will be fully funded by tuition payments.
- D. The board approved of the Intermediate Summer School Program to be offered at the Intermediate School. The focus will be on a **developmental and remedial reading** program for students who have completed fourth and fifth grade as of June 2004. The dates for the program will be Monday, June 21 through Friday, July 23, 2004. A minimum of twelve students is necessary to operate each class and the number of students enrolled will determine the number of teachers employed. The cost this year is \$140.00 per class. Teacher salary will be calculated at the present rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. Subsequent to the approval by the Board, parents of fourth and fifth grade students will be notified of this program. All money and applications for these courses must be completed and submitted to the attention of Dr. Marsha R. Hurda, Assistant Superintendent, by May 21, 2004. Classes that do not have a minimum of twelve enrolled by that date will be cancelled. The Intermediate Summer School Program will be fully funded by tuition payments.

- E. The board approved of the **Fast Forward 2004 Summer Program** from Monday, June 21 through Friday, July 23, 2004. The cost to the student will be \$140.00. Additional days for the teachers and the instructional assistants would be needed for training and preparation before the start of the program and for completion of the reports after the program. These costs will be paid for out of the General Curriculum Budget not to exceed \$5,500.00.

PSBA REPORTRAYMOND J. ROCCHIO, JR.

This week the House Education Committee approved three bills of interest to school officials:

- * HB 36 would amend the School Code to provide for compulsory school age. Specifically, the bill would require children to enter school at six years of age instead of the current age of eight. Parents that intend to home school their children would be able submit a notice to the school district delaying their reporting requirements until the child reaches the age of 8.

- * HB 2178 that would amend the School Code to provide for harassment, bullying and intimidation policies. The bill encourages school entities to adopt policies that include a definition of conduct, a statement prohibiting these actions related to harassment, bullying and intimidation and consequences for committing such actions. The bill also requires the Department of Education to establish a Web site and clearinghouse of information and training materials on harassment, bullying and intimidation for use by interested school entities. School entities may also submit materials to the clearinghouse for the benefit of others.

- * HB 2187 that would expand the Public School Employees Retirement Board to allow three annuitants to serve instead of the current single annuitant. It also would allow duly authorized designees to serve on behalf of elected board members if the designee's status qualified them to represent the individual groups.

The Senate Finance Committee approved two bills of interest:

- * HB 225 would allow retired school personnel to return to school service when there is an emergency or shortage of appropriate personnel and permit the individual to remain in service until the end of the school year. The bill was amended to also allow an annuitant to return to an extracurricular position at a public school under a separate contract. Currently, annuitants cannot be employed for more than 95 days in a school year. Upon returning to service, annuitants would not lose their current annuity under the bill and would not be eligible to earn credited service or to make contributions. Employers and the commonwealth would also be restricted from making contributions.

- * SB 971 that would amend the Public Employee Pension Forfeiture Act to provide for criminal acts. Specifically, the bill would require a school

employee to forfeit his or her public pension when they commit a criminal offense listed in Subchapter B of Chapter 31 against a student. Crimes listed under this subchapter include various sexual offenses.

In other news, the State Board of Education voted final form approval of Chapter 12 regulations regarding students and student services. Prior to final adoption, the board approved a number of changes to the document. Included among the final revisions are changes to provisions regarding expulsion hearings. New language requires at least a three-day notice of the time and place of the hearing, with the notice of the right to appeal to be provided with the expulsion decision (and not with the original hearing notice as was required in the previous draft). Also added was a listing of the specific reasons that would justify a delay in proceedings. Other changes update the legal citations that are appropriate concerning the right of public school students to freedom of speech. A new section with expanded definitions was added to Chapter 12, and extensive language inserted to provisions regarding student services that contains more specific language concerning guidance counseling, health services, social work and other services. The new language calls for districts to prepare a student services plan as part of their strategic plan.

The committees of the board leading the reviews of the Chapter 4 regulations for academic standards and assessment, and Chapter 49 rules for certification of professional personnel continued discussions. Each committee reviewed additional changes to the drafts of their rules. In addition, the committee leading the Chapter 49 review announced that it will be conducting a series of public hearings on the draft on April 6 in Norristown, April 13 in Harrisburg and April 16 in Pittsburgh. (end of report)

IX. CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Items A-Q. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

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

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Dr. Genevieve D. Coale**, Superintendent of Schools, to attend "*Spring Legal Roundup*" at the Inn at Chester Springs in Exton, PA on Tuesday, April 20, 2004. The total cost of the conference is \$80.00 from the 580 account.
- B. **Dr. Genevieve D. Coale**, Superintendent of Schools, to attend "*2004 Superintendents' Conference*" in St. Michaels, MD from Thursday, April 29 through Saturday, May 1, 2004. This conference will feature Dr. Jerry

Weast, Superintendent of the Montgomery County Maryland Public School District, who will explore in detail the programs in place in his district and Maree Sneed, a preeminent NCLB legal expert, will share the latest legal advice and counsel on NCLB topics. The total cost of this conference is \$735.00 from the 580 account.

- C. **Dr. Leticia M. Rodriguez**, Director of Human Resources, to attend "*The Society for Human Resource Management Annual Conference*" in New Orleans, LA from Sunday, June 27, 2004 through Wednesday, June 30, 2004. This conference is the world's largest exposition dedicated to human resource professionals by providing the most essential and comprehensive set of resources available. The total cost of the conference is \$2,400.00 from the 580 account.
- D. **Joseph Krueger**, Supervisor of Special Education, to attend "*An Update of OSEP Correction Action*" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Friday, March 26, 2004. This training is designed to prepare teams of trainers with the knowledge and skills required to implement a continuum of psychological services as a related service for the provision of FAPE. The total cost of the training is \$10.00 from the 580 account.
- E. **Dolores Furlan, Joseph Krueger, Dr. Ed Coombe**, Supervisors of Special Education, **Mark Moyer**, Principal, **Dr. Dennis Booher** and **Jeff Kollar**, Assistant Principals, to attend "*Assistive Technology Training*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit on Wednesday, April 21, 2004. This training is needed for the Spring-Ford Assistive Technology Team to hear the current information on new assistive technology devices and to plan for staff training for the 2004-2005 school year. The total cost of this training is \$82.00 from the 580 account.

HIGH SCHOOL

- F. Administration is recommending **Mary Palladino, Nancy Michewicz, Rodger Horne, Jennifer Gillespie, Melinda Klunk, Angeline Cremins, Margaret D. Wright, Mary Pat Long, Dr. Edward Mackel, and Jill Ujobai** to participate in the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference to be held in Philadelphia in April of 2004. This conference was approved at the January 26, 2004 Board Meeting (cancelled due to inclement weather and rescheduled to February 4, 2004). This conference will support the district's goal of continued improvement in student mathematical skills by providing this team with training from nationally ranked mathematics experts.
- G. **Cheri Krell-Morris**, school psychologist, to attend "*Neuropsychological Assessment in The School : Myths and Realities*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Friday, April 30, 2004. This conference will give Cheri information on the relationship between the neuropsychological processes revealed during assessment and behavior displayed in the environment as well as identifying appropriate interventions and monitoring methodology based on all assessment data.

The total cost of this conference is \$91.52 from the Psychologist budget. No substitute is needed.

- H. **Jane Kulp**, Autistic Support teacher, to attend "*An Introduction to Teaching Language Through Analysis of Verbal Behavior*" at PATTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Tuesday, April 20, 2004. This training will provide Jane with the research based methods emerging to teach language to autistic students. The total cost of this training is \$135.08 - \$10.08 from the Special Education Budget and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- I. **Joelle L. Maguire**, health and physical education teacher, to attend "*Adventure Curriculum Exchange*" at West Chester University in West Chester, PA on Friday, April 16, Saturday, April 17 and Sunday, April 18, 2004. The senior high school physical education staff if trying to incorporate adventure based education into their curriculum and this conference will allow Joelle to learn new activities that she will share with high school staff. The total cost of this conference is \$202.30 - \$139.80 from the 580 account and \$62.50 from the substitute account as only a ½ day substitute is required.
- J. **Mary Ann Rudy**, reading specialist, to attend "*Comprehension in Reading*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Wednesday, April 14, 2004. This conference will help Mary Ann learn the comprehension strategies necessary to bring the 9th grade students up to advanced or proficient on the PSSA reading tests. The total cost of this conference is \$133.00 - \$8.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- K. **Amy Sullens**, art teacher, to attend "*Art Meets Special Needs*" at the Bucks County Intermediate Unit in Doylestown, PA on Tuesday, March 23, 2004. This conference will give Amy the opportunity to gain information and experience in arts education for students with special needs. The total cost of this conference is \$200.00 - \$75.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- L. **Jeanne Ferry**, nurse coordinator, to attend "*PASNAP – Annual Conference*" at The Penn Stater Conference Center in State College, PA on Friday, April 16, Saturday, April 17 and Sunday, April 18, 2004. This annual conference will provide Jeanne with updates in school nurse guidelines from the state which will benefit the nursing staff, students and district employees. The total cost of this conference is \$630.31 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

- M. **Amy Weaver and Dana Day Claffey**, learning support teachers, to attend "*Progress Monitoring Training*" at PATTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Monday, March 15, 2004. This is mandatory follow up training to develop skills in progress monitoring as a condition of the No Child Left Behind Law. Skills learned will be shared with building staff. The total

cost of this conference is \$270.81 - \$20.81 from the Special Education Budget and \$250.00 from the substitute account.

LIMERICK ELEMENTARY

- N. **Susan Hess**, teacher, to attend "*Differentiated Instruction*" at the Radisson Hotel in Valley Forge, PA on Monday, May 10, 2004. This conference will introduce strategies, lessons and activities that are research-based on differentiated instruction, an important part of our instructional program as we strive to meet the individual needs of our students. The total cost of this conference is \$295.25 - \$170.25 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- O. **Ann Dieter**, learning support teacher, to attend "*Effective Writing Strategies for Students with Learning Disabilities*" at the Wyndham Valley Forge in Valley Forge, PA on Friday, April 30, 2004. This conference will enable Ann to tie classroom assessment to the rubrics used on statewide assessments and to learn strategies necessary to help students succeed on statewide writing assessments. The total cost of this conference is \$314.00 - \$189.00 from the Special Education Budget and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

ROYERSFORD ELEMENTARY

- P. **Susan Trimble**, teacher, to attend "*Dr. Jean Feldman's Super Strategies for Beginning Reading*" in Drexel Hill, PA on Wednesday, May 12, 2004. This conference will help Susan build her knowledge base on beginning reading strategies. The total cost of this conference is \$306.00 - \$181.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

UPPER PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY

- Q. **Jessica Walker**, counselor, to attend "*ADHD, Aspergers, OCD & Tourette's Assessments: Clinical and Classroom Interventions*" in King of Prussia, PA on Tuesday, May 11, 2004. This conference will help Jessica become better informed on the significant increase in the diagnosis of ADHD, Aspergers, OCD and Tourette's Syndrome which she will share with parents and the other district counselors. The total cost of this conference is \$165.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

Correction Item for Agenda

The conference for Maria Kardick, Middle School Librarian, was listed as Thursday April 1, Friday, April 2, and Saturday, May 1, 2004. It should read Thursday, April 29, Friday, April 30, and Saturday, May 1, 2004.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-C. Mrs. Williams seconded it. It was approved 8-1 with Mr. Rocchio voting no.

- A. The board approved of following policy.:
 - 1. Policy #918 - Title I - Parent Involvement
- B. The board approved of Community Relations/Dedication recommendation of a **board dinner** at the Western Center for Technical Studies to honor six former board members. The cost for 38 people to attend would be \$750. Possible dates would be Friday, April 2 or Wednesday, April 7. (The date needs to be rescheduled.)
- C. The board approved of a confidential settlement and release agreement with the parents of a special education student and the authorization of payment in the amount of \$6,618.79 in full satisfaction of claims, attorneys' fees and costs.

XI. INFORMATION ITEM

- A. The following policies were submitted as a second reading with approval at the board meeting in April:
 - 1. Policy # 005.1 – LOCAL BOARD PROCEDURES: Board Committee Agenda and Minutes
 - 2. Policy # 006 – LOCAL BOARD PROCEDURES: Meetings
 - 3. Policy # 218.1 – PUPILS: Weapons
 - 4. Policy # 807 – OPERATIONS: Opening Exercises/Flag Displays

XII. DISCUSSION ITEMS**A. Graduating Class Seating Arrangements**

Dr. Coale asked for consensus from the board to hold graduation on the field. Mr. Pettit agreed that it is an administrative issue. Dr. Coale announced that the administration will move forward with graduation exercises being held in the football field.

B. Honor Roll Options: Discussion: Ray Rocchio, Jr.**1. Option A****Distinguished Honor Roll**

93% and above in all subjects

Honor Roll

85% and above in all subjects

2. **Option B**

Distinguished Honor Roll

93% and above grade point average with no more than one B and no grade less than a B (or less than Satisfactory in special subject areas)

Honor Roll

85% and above grade point average with no more than one C and no grade less than a C

3. **Option C**

Distinguished Honor Roll

93% and above grade point average with all A's in major subjects (unit credit of 1.0) No more than one B allowed in any minor subject (unit credit less than 1.0)

Honor Roll

85% and above grade point average with all grades of A or B in all major and minor subjects

Mr. Rocchio said that he received 40 responses regarding honor roll: 10-12 favored Option A; 15 for Option B; and 5-6 for Option C. Option B is favored by administrators and guidance counselors. He has the e-mail available for review. The board discussed the parameters of the options, asked that there be more input from administrators, and decided to continue accepting feedback until the Friday before the next work session (April 16). The board asked for a 10 minute recap of the presentation on the options to be given at the next work session.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Stokes asked about the solution to the closure of the Middle School for renovation and the resulting loss of locker facilities. Mr. McDaniel said 666 athletes participated in fall sports. He said a field house that includes a drying area for pads and equipment is needed. The last proposal discussed at the Property Committee was \$200,000 but it will probably be more costly since he preferred oversized to undersized and something for the long term. Previous quotes were 120 for five years and 250 for something more long term said Mr. Cummins. Mr. Pettit asked Mr. Anspach and Mr. McDaniel to devise temporary and other options and include costs.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items A-J. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

PERSONNEL

A. The board approved of the following **resignation(s)**, with regret:

1. **Rick Harrison**, 8th Grade Boys' Baseball Coach, effective March 11, 2004.
- B. The board approved of the following **leave(s) of absence**:
1. **Loretta Bitterman**, Coordinator of Transportation, District Office, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 3, 2004.
 2. **Amy P. Bornais**, 2nd grade teacher at Royersford Elementary School for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively May 26, 2004 until the end of the 1st semester of the 2004/2005 school year.
 3. **Katherine D. Smith**, 1st grade teacher at Brooke Elementary School for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 22, 2004.
 4. **Amy B. Sullens**, Art Teacher at the High School for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively September 8, 2004 until the end of the first semester 2004/2005 school year.
 5. **Cathy Anne Emswiler**, Instructional Assistant at the High School for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 13, 2004.
 6. **William Franz**, Custodian at Brooke Elementary School for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 1, 2004.
 7. **George J. Vermuth, Jr.**, Instructional Asst. for Technology at the High School for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy effective April 1 until the end of the 2003/2004 school year.
- C. The board approved of **Christine E. Veneziale**, Schwenksville, PA, for the Long Term Substitute position teaching 2nd Grade at Upper Providence Elementary School replacing Carol Lippy until the end of the school year. Ms. Veneziale is a graduate of Penn State University with certification in Elementary Education. Ms. Veneziale is currently a per diem substitute for the district. Compensation will be set at \$35,500, BS, Step 1, prorated, with benefits, retroactive to February 17, 2004.
- D. The board approved of **John Clark**, Phoenixville, PA, for the Instructional Asst. position at the Middle School replacing James Antonik who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$12.70 an hour plus \$.25 an hour for degree for a total of \$12.95 an hour (pending receipt of transcripts) with benefits as per the Assistant's plan, effective March 23, 2004.
- E. The board approved of **Nancy Gambino**, for the New Secretarial position at the Flex School. Ms. Gambino is currently an Instructional Assistant at Spring City Elementary School. Compensation will be set at \$12.00 an

hour with benefits as per the Secretarial plan, effective date to be determined, pending upon a replacement for her current position.

- F. The board approved of **Marion Pergine**, Royersford, PA, for the new Administrative Assistant position at the Flex School. Ms. Pergine is currently a secretary at the High School. Compensation will be set at \$15.00 with benefits as per the Secretarial Plan, effective date to be determined, pending upon a replacement for her current position.
- G. The board approved of the following **independent contract(s)**:
1. **Susan Katz**, Phoenixville, PA, to present an assembly on Poetry Programs focusing on the writing and publishing of Mrs. Brown on Exhibit and Other Museum Poems. The total contract will not exceed \$350 and will be in effect on March 10, 2004. Funding will be provided by Spring City Elementary School.
 2. **The Little Women Band**, Chester Springs, PA, to present a Motivational Music Assembly Program that correlates with a variety of pro-social topics. The total contract will not exceed \$875 and will be in effect from June 3 to June 9, 2004. Funding will be provided by Oaks PTA.
 3. **Magician Eric Paul**, Phoenixville, PA, to present an assembly with 2-30 minute magic shows in connection with the Reading Incentive Programs. The total contract will not exceed \$400 and will be in effect on May 25, 2004. Funding will be provided by Limerick Elementary School Home and School Association.
 4. **Anthe Capitan Valais**, Artist in Residence, Flourtown, PA, to provide an Art workshop entitled "Printmaking". The total contract will not exceed \$150 and will be in effect on March 19, 2004. Funding will be provided by Curriculum & Instruction – Professional Education Services.
- H. The board approved of the following **extra-curricular/supplemental contract(s)** at the High School:
1. **Rick Harrison**, 9th Grade Baseball Coach, \$2,477, Code F
- I. The board approved of the following **professional substitute(s)**:
1. **Holly J. Epstein**, Kennett Square, PA, Elementary Education, Susquehanna University.
 2. **Beth A. Gould**, Collegeville, PA, Elementary Education, University of Scranton.
 3. **Shannon A. McCracken**, Collegeville, PA, Health & Physical Education, East Stroudsburg University.

4. **Randy Piersol**, Phoenixville, PA, Elementary Education, Middle School Science, Middle School Social Studies, University of Pennsylvania.

J. The board approved of the following **support substitute(s)**:

1. **Maria Stieber**, Royersford, PA, Office/Clerical.

FINANCE

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items A-C. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 9-0. Mrs. Williams asked about the necessity of the board rejecting the bids. The solicitor said it was necessary for the record. Mr. Schroeder asked questions about the bidding and the solicitor said it was a state and cooperative bid.

- A. The board approved of the rejection of all bids for 164 computer tables, tables for 8 computer labs, and 116 teacher computer workstations for the new Middle/Intermediate Schools.

Regarding Item B, Mr. Cummins asked the difference between the tables. Mr. Anspach said \$202,000 for the same table.

- B. The board approved of the purchase of 164 student **computer tables**, tables for 8 **computer labs**, and 116 teacher computer **workstations** in the amount of \$185,044.51 from Spectrum Industries, Inc. The purchase will be made under the Pennsylvania Educational Purchasing Program for Microcomputers (PEPPM) and includes a voluntary price reduction, by the manufacturer, of 60.2% below the PEPPM contract price. It is the opinion of administration that the Spectrum tables are durable and will withstand the test of time. The purchase will be made from budgeted Technology funds.

Mr. Schroeder asked about the \$50,000 charge. The solicitor said that the \$50,000 is a combined figure.

- C. The board approved of Fox Rothschild to hire **expert witnesses** of Edward T. Luckiewicz and Edward C. Abbott regarding the Limerick Power Plant Tax Assessment Appeal. The cost shall not exceed \$50,000 for these two individuals.

PROPERTY

Mr. Ciresi asked how the movers would be monitored so they don't go over the "not to exceed" cost. Mr. Ziegler said the costs would be monitored weekly.

- A. The board approved of **T&N Van Service** to provide moving services for the Intermediate, Middle and the new flex 5-7 Building as per their quote dated 3/11/04 for a cost not-to-exceed **\$45,000**. Funds will come from the Construction Fund.

Mr. Morgan asked if this was the re-bid discussed in the board session. The solicitor said he was not comfortable awarding on a contract of a year ago.

- B. The board approved of **Change Order #1** in the amount of **\$210,545.23** to **Horst Construction** to install the field and parking area at the Intermediate School which was Contract #3 which was the same bid of August 2003. This is necessitated by the fact that the modular classrooms at the Intermediate School (Grades 5-6) will be removed, which was unforeseen at the time the original bid was approved by the Board of Directors in September 2003. The funds will come from the Capital Reserve.
- C. The board approved of McMahon and Associates to complete a school **flashing permit plan** (required by Penn Dot) construction/bid documents, and bid evaluation to be installed at 5th Ave Royersford Elementary School for a total amount of \$3,850.
- D. The board approved of an updated appraisal for the District Office by William S. Hixon, MA, State Certified General Estate Appraisal. The cost for research of recent sales to determine if the appraisal figures as reported November 1, 2000 is the same is \$2,000. (Time required 6 to 8 weeks). If at that time the appraisal figure is different, the board can consider an additional \$800 for an updated appraisal report.
- E. The board approved of the conditions of **Limerick Township Resolution LD 03-26 (P)** Spring-Ford Area School District Land Development. (attachment)

DISCUSSION

Mr. Pettit said the discussion would be postponed since the videotaping was about to end and the discussion would not be forecast.

- A. Impact of Referendum on the School District

CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

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

LIMERICK

- A. **Patricia Stroop**, Autistic Support teacher, to attend *“An Introduction to Teaching Language Through Analysis of Verbal Behavior”* at PATTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Tuesday, April 20, 2004. This training incorporates the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis in verbal language development. Pat has both current and upcoming students who will greatly benefit from her receiving this training. The total cost of this

training is \$147.00 - \$22.00 from the Special Education Budget and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items A-C. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of entering into an agreement with Perkiomen School District for 19 slots for the new Beginnings Alternative School at a cost of \$5,500 per student for a total cost of \$104,500 for the 2004-05 school year.
- B. The board approved of a confidential settlement and release agreement with the parents of a special education student and the authorization of payment in the amount of \$4,700.00 in full satisfaction of claims, attorneys' fees and costs.
- C. The board approved of the attached revised **student school calendar** for the 2003-04 school year. The March 19th in-service for teachers was cancelled due to weather. The in-service day has been placed at the end of the school day. (Attachment)

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ciresi asked whether it was possible to increase the number from 19 slots since it was a good deal. Dr. Coale said it was not possible to purchase more but it is possible to borrow slots from districts who have leftover slots.

INFORMATION ITEM

Mr. Masciandaro asked whether there was a need to "reset" the clock with the first reading. Dr. Coale said the motion was written this way at the direction of the board. She added that it was necessary to have a 30-day span between the reading and approval. Mrs. Williams asked about the minutes and the motion regarding the ad hoc committee. Mr. Schroeder said the wording of the motion was exactly in his words.

- A. The following policy is submitted as a first reading with further review in April and approval at the board meeting in May:

As recommended by the board of directors, Policy #005, Organization, page 4, under g, number 1: Ad Hoc – will be comprised of one member from each region to be selected by the entire Board of Directors and to meet on an as-needed basis.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was none.

PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Kathleen Bryant, Upper Providence

Spoke about how she suggested in November that the board work with other organizations to purchase an information sign for the high school. Said she learned that the Spring-Ford Booster Club offered a donation of \$11,000 for a sign two years ago and questioned why the board did not discuss this issue.

Mrs. Stokes acknowledged that it was a generous offer. She said that the total cost of the digital sign was in the neighborhood of \$30,000 and that the district would have to pay the additional \$19,000. The property committee decided it was too expensive. Mrs. Bryant said she believed that it was a lower figure and that an informational sign is needed. Mr. Schroeder said the board has a plan for two matching, manual signs: one for the 9th grade center and one for the high school. Mr. Anspach said \$35,000 was earmarked in the Capital Reserve account for a digital sign. Mr. Schroeder said there is a current proposal for two signs for \$5,000 each. Mrs. Bryant said hopefully the \$10,000 expenditure can still be shared with other organizations. Mrs. Bryant spoke about the November arrest, which she said the board should have discussed while the meeting was still being videotaped for broadcast.

ACTION REVIEW

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Rocchio made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. The board adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Spring-Ford Goals - March 22, 2004 Recommendation of Assignments

Process:

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

Goal Action Proposals:

1. Reduce class sizes
Recommendation: Property and Facilities Committees
2. Perform Feasibility Study on creation of "in house" alternative educational program
Recommendation: Curriculum Committee
3. Student Health and Safety - Reduce drug usage.
Recommendation - Extra Curricular Committee
4. Improve public perceptions of the district, Local industry as a district partner and alternative funding. Non-Monetary Employee Incentive:
Recommendation: Community Relations / Dedication Committee
5. Key Measures: Graduation rate increase, Increase percent of graduates going to post secondary school, Establish a listing of our graduates continuing education school placement, Increase scholarships achieved by our students. Tracking graduates to see how we are doing. Graduate acceptance at top universities and colleges
Recommendation: Full Board.
6. School Media centers / libraries open weekends, evenings and summer. Create continuing education programs
Recommendation: Curriculum Committee
7. Reduce Childhood obesity:
Recommendation:
8. Increase PSSA and Terra Nova Test Scores:
Recommendation: Full Board
9. Plan for District wide Construction needs:
Recommendation: Facilities Committee
10. Establish a Blue Ribbon School
Recommendation: Curriculum Committee

11. Develop and implement a Five Year Financial Plan
Recommendation: Finance Committee

12. District Office replacement
Recommendation: Full Board

This report was reviewed with the entire board in it's general meeting on March 22, 2004 and accepted with no objection or modification.

Referenced below are the original goals:

Spring-ford goals Feb 24, 2004 Version 2

Proposals:

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

2. Reduce drug usage

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

3. Reduce costs and provide more services for alternative education.

- Establish a program for alternative Education within the district. Feature career based programs. programs should be of high quality with approved articulation agreements with Technical institutes and various colleges. DO NOT OVERLAP Programs that are available at WCTS. It is important to keep 'OUR STUDENTS' interested in their future. Any program must be flexible, It should offer Flex hours, day care, internships, intense counseling, and ultimately job placement components. We should stop sending our difficult students out of the district, and along with them hundreds of thousands of our communities tax dollars with them. It is time to treat this issue with respect and dignity and be accountable for all of our students.

- Determine the feasibility of operating our own alternative school.
- Special needs Children: Would like to see a study on what the district spends on these children and if possible for the district to bring these children back into the district and instruct them in a district building. With the state cutting its share of funding

every year, and tuition going up we need to look at this matter and maybe set up a five-year goal

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

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

6. Graduation rate increase

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

8. Increase scholarships achieved by our students

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

10. School Media centers / libraries open weekends, evenings and summer

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

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

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

14. Increase PSSA and Terra Nova Test Scores:
 - Alarming number of test scores in the below average category in the 9th grade of the terra nova test scores in reading and mathematics. I would like to see these

numbers brought into the single digits. The same holds true for the 11th grade PSSA test in mathematics. These numbers also need to be brought up into the single percentages also

15. Plan for District wide Construction needs:

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

16. Non-Monetary Employee Incentive:

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

17. Establish a Blue Ribbon School

18. Financial Plan:

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

19. District Office:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet A. Stokes
Board Secretary

Pat Dillon
Recording Secretary