

On March 22, 2010 the board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:40 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Edward T. Dressler, Jr., Bernard F. Pettit and David R. Shafer
Region II: Clara M. Gudolonis, Julie A. Mullin and Donna L. Williams
Region III: Mark P. Dehnert and Thomas J. DiBello
Presiding Officer: Joseph P. Ciresi
Superintendent: Dr. Marsha R. Hurda
Business Manager: Timothy Anspach
Solicitor: Marc Davis, Esq.
Student Rep.: Michael John

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Ciresi announced that the Board met in an Executive Session to discuss personnel employment agreements. Mr. Ciresi invited members of the community to attend the Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, March 24th in the auditorium of the 9th Grade Center starting at 7:30 p.m. Residents will have the chance to learn more about the district's 2010-2011 budget process and to express their feelings. Mr. Ciresi announced that Spring-Ford High School will present "Beauty and the Beast" this weekend. There will be a special 4:00 p.m. performance of the musical on Thursday, March 25th, for senior citizens, admission is free. The regular evening performances will be held on Friday, March 26th and Saturday, March 27th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and senior citizens. A special character brunch and matinee performance will also be held on Saturday, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Tickets for this event are \$10 and must be purchased in advance. Contact Aimee Cantello at (610) 705-6001, extension 1629, or acant@spring-ford.net to order tickets. Mr. Ciresi announced that SNAP will be hosting a Beef and Beverage fundraiser on April 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the Limerick Fire House. Tickets are \$30 per person. More information is available on the SNAP website at www.snap.org

Mr. DiBello spoke on behalf of John Murtin and the SNAP Committee thanking both the Administration and the Board for participating in the dodgeball tournament on Friday night. Mrs. Mullin reported that Mr. Murtin had told her that SNAP was able to raise \$3,700 for the post prom party through this event.

Mr. Ciresi announced that, due to the construction taking place at the high school, the Board Meetings will be moving to the 9th Grade Center cafeteria.

Mr. Ciresi presented Dr. Hurda and the Administration with a dodgeball signed by all of the Board Members congratulating them on their victory over the Board at the dodgeball tournament. Dr. Hurda thanked the Board and stated that on behalf of the Administration it was their pleasure to play against the Board.

Mr. Ciresi presented Student Representative, Michael John, with a dodgeball signed by all of the Board Members and thanked him for volunteering to play on the School Board's team against the Administration rather than on a team with his own friends.

I. PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Ciresi thanked all of the organizations that do all of this volunteer work for the district. Mr. Ciresi commented that these parents spend an enormous amount of their own time and money doing different fundraisers, helping kids get participate and get to different events. Mr. Ciresi stated that without them a lot of events would not happen in the district. Mr. Ciresi commented that we cannot thank them enough for the time and energy they put into this.

Mr. Nugent stated that he echoes Mr. Ciresi's comments. Mr. Nugent said he is pleased to have the opportunity to recognize these groups as well. Mr. Nugent introduced and thanked the Officers of the High School Athletic Booster Club and the High School Music Association. Mr. Ciresi presented each officer with a certificate recognizing them for their efforts on behalf of Spring-Ford students.

- A. Presentation recognizing the **High School Athletic Booster Club** and the **High School Music Association** for their time and efforts on behalf of Spring-Ford students.

Mr. Nugent introduced each of the House Principals at the high school level. Mr. Nugent introduced Mr. Ed Ritti, Math Teacher, Mr. Zack Stewart, World Language Teacher, and Mrs. Judy Kuhns, Technology Integration Specialist, who gave a presentation on ways they use the SmartBoard for classroom instruction as well as other various ways the SmartBoard can be used as part of the educational process.

Mr. DiBello asked how many students could interact with the SmartBoard at one time and Mr. Ritti responded that he normally brings up a group of 4 who may be using the SmartBoard while others are doing the same work at their desks. Mr. Ritti commented that he has actually brought up half the class at one time but that can get a bit crowded if you are trying to get everyone around the SmartBoard, especially if using one of the mobile units.

Dr. Hurda asked the teachers to speak about how this technology has been able to enhance the curriculum in their classes. Mr. Ritti responded that from a mathematics perspective the big push from the National Council of Mathematics Teachers is that you make connections between the material and also show different representations. Mr. Ritti stated the Board makes it easier for the whole class to see the lesson as opposed to using small manipulatives, which he does still use, on a desktop with students crowded around him. Mr. Stewart responded that with foreign language it really helps hit the different multiple intelligences by just adding a visual element and a tactile element for them to be able to manipulate things. Mr. Stewart said he believes the students are more engaged and they enjoy it a bit more plus he is able to monitor what they are doing where if they are in groups doing their own thing it is a little bit

harder. Mr. Ritti added that he creates pdf's of all of his notes and if you have a student who may be out for a prolonged period you can email the notes to them and their parents. Mr. Ritti said some teachers actually post their notes to their websites and this is something that is not possible with an overhead or by using a blackboard.

Mr. Dressler asked what the learning curve is for this piece of equipment and if all of the Math Department shares the same enthusiasm. Mr. Ritti replied that he stayed after school for half an hour to an hour practicing with the SmartBoard when he first started using it. Mr. Ritti said with anything you are going to need some professional development and the learning curve would be based on the person and from a technology standpoint how comfortable they are.

Mr. Dehnert asked if all the math teachers for all of the classes at the high school were using SmartBoards and Mr. Nugent said they are still working on the install as it takes some time to put the units in so not everyone is up and running as of yet.

Mr. Dehnert asked if there is any difference in the student performance from those teachers who use SmartBoards and those who do not. Mr. Nugent said he did not have any data to support that at this time.

Ms. Gudolonis asked what software comes with the SmartBoards and is it necessary at anytime to order additional software depending on the subject being taught. Mrs. Kuhns responded that when you purchase the SmartBoard the software is included and any upgrades are free.

Mr. Pettit said he would like to piggyback on Mr. Dehnert's question regarding whether there was any way of measuring the improvement of students or is there a way of securing that data that we do not have in order to measure the effectiveness of the SmartBoards versus those classes that do not utilize them. Mr. Ritti said he does not know how to answer that other than go back to teaching without the SmartBoard. He stated that he does not have any specific data other than the observations he has made in his classroom where he knows it has made a difference because the students are more engaged. Mr. Pettit asked if there was a way to measure the effectiveness and Mr. Nugent replied that he would have to give some thought to how this could be done but engagement and motivation are two of the most important factors at any high school and motivation is the key. Mr. Nugent stated that one of the things we want to make sure we are doing for motivation is to continue using the technology that is prevalent in our society and is being used in colleges, universities and the business world.

Mr. Dressler commented that one thing he has learned in talking about technology personnel at other school districts is that it depends on the motivation of the teacher. SmartBoards engage the teacher and taps into their creativity in creating a more interesting course. It is not just the student being more engaged but they then feel the engagement of the teacher and this then becomes a more cooperative learning experience for both.

Mr. Ciresi stated that our students today are much more different than students in the past between texting, the computer, and the touch screens that are everywhere. Mr. Ciresi reported that when his son was in 4th grade the teacher used a SmartBoard and he would light up when he would come home and talk about using the SmartBoard in

school. Mr. Ciresi said he believes many students would say that when the SmartBoards are on it is a lot more engaging than just writing on the chalkboard. Mr. Ciresi commented that the SmartBoard may make a lesson that seemed boring at one time come to life. Mr. Ciresi said from a parent's perspective there was definitely a difference in his son's voice when he came home from school on the days when the SmartBoard was used.

Mr. Shafer thanked Mr. Nugent, the teachers and Mrs. Kuhns for coming out tonight and doing this presentation. Mr. Shafer recalled that when School Boards were faced with computers as a potential learning tool when they first came out it was considered to be a game changer. Mr. Shafer said a tool like a SmartBoard is one of those game changers in the classroom. Mr. Shafer stated that step one would be a challenge for the Board to figure out how to get these SmartBoards in a fiscally responsible manner to those teachers who administration feels would use them the most effectively. Mr. Shafer commented that step two would be to figure out what the professional development would be behind this technology so that the SmartBoards do not just sit there as very expensive blackboards. Mr. Shafer said his hope is that the Board can put together a really strong strategy with the leadership of the administration driving it that gets SmartBoards in front of the teachers who want to use them and we of course then support them with professional development.

Mr. Ciresi thanked the high school staff members for coming out tonight and giving a great presentation. Mr. Ciresi expressed his thanks to all the high school staff for the work they do to engage the students on a daily basis. Mr. Ciresi stated that a demonstration like this show us exactly what is happening in the classroom and how we engage the students and help them become more competitive in the real world.

Patrick Nugent, Principal, **Judy Kuhns**, Technology Integration Specialist, **Edward Ritti** and **Edward Stewart**, Teachers, to give a presentation on the use of technology in the High School.

II. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no questions or comments.

III. NEW APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. The Board approved the February 16, 2010 Work Session minutes.

IV. PERSONNEL

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-E and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. Resignation:

1. **Sheree Dunwoody**, 5/6th Grade Center; Part-time Cafeteria employee, effective with the last school day June 16, 2010.

B. Leaves of Absence in accordance with Board Policy:

1. **Courtney Briddes**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective, intermittently, March 9, 2010 for up to a maximum of twelve weeks.
2. **Mary E. Fletcher**, Oaks Elementary School; Custodian, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 9, 2010 for up to a maximum of twelve weeks.
3. **Allison Hughes**, 5/6th Grade Center; Elementary Teacher, for a Sabbatical Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 8, 2010 through the end of the 2009/2010 school year.
4. **Cheryl A. Kramer**, 5/6th Grade Center; Art Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 5, 2010 for up to a maximum of twelve weeks.
5. **Mary Moore**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective retroactive, intermittently, October 30, 2009 for up to a maximum of twelve weeks.
6. **Mary Palladino**, High School; Mathematics Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective February 20, 2010 for up to a maximum of twelve weeks.
7. **June Perry**, Evans Elementary School; Custodian, for an extended Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective April 6, 2010.

New Leaves of Absence:

8. **Susan Ibach**, Evans Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively June 10, 2010 and continue through the 1st semester of the 2010/2011 school year.
9. **Jonathan R. Markowich**, 7th Grade Center; Mathematics Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 10, 2010 for up to a maximum of twelve weeks.

C. Supplemental Contracts: High School

1. **Denise Johnston**, Assistant Lacrosse Coach – Girls, \$3,856

D. Professional Staff Substitutes:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Eric D. Burnett | Health & Physical Education |
| 2. Lauren E. English | Elementary Ed/Early Childhood |
| 3. Aubrey Fournier | Early Childhood |
| 4. Christopher Hetrick | Social Studies |

New Professional Staff Substitute:

5. **Kristen Penderghest** Social Studies

E. Support Staff Substitutes:

1. **Tracie Horan** Support
 2. **Donna McMonalge** Registered Nurse

V. FINANCE*** DENOTES NEW PAYMENTS SINCE THE WORK SESSION**

Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Items A-O and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. Ms. Gudolonis stated that she has a question on Item K. Mrs. Williams rescinded her motion and Mr. Dehnert rescinded his second.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to to approve Items A-H and Mrs. Williams seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

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

1. SENIOR HIGH- ALTERATION & ADDITIONS

APEX Plumbing Inc.	Applic. #7- Plumbing Contractor	\$ 64,444.50
Colonial Electric Supply	Misc. Supplies	\$ 1,729.07
Earth Engineering Inc.	Professional Services	\$ 2,809.25
EI Associates	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$ 3,056.07
Ferguson	Misc. Plumbing Supplies	\$ 215.53
Limerick Township	Professional Services	\$ 274.89
3 M	Dismantle 3M Security System--	
	Library	\$ 785.00
MAB Paints	Misc. Painting Supplies	\$ 35.37
Officenter	Inventory/Design Furniture	\$ 1,250.00
Shaner Propane	Temporary Heat - Propane	\$ 242.92
*E.R. Stuebner Inc.	Applic. #9- General Contractor	\$1,417,995.31
*Goshen Mechanical Inc	Applic. #10- HVAC Contractor	\$ 234,470.70
* Shaner Propane	Temporary Heat - Propane	\$ 305.00
	TOTAL	\$1,727,613.61

2. 9th GRADE CENTER PARKING LOT

H. A. Weigand Inc.	Signage	\$ 412.00
	TOTAL	\$ 412.00

3. 10TH AVENUE BY-PASS

Bursich Assoc.	Professional Services	\$ 780.00
Fox Rothschild LLC	Professional Services	\$ 216.00
	TOTAL	\$ 996.00

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

1. **SUKONIK/GREENSTEIN CONDEMNATION**

Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services	\$	36.00
	TOTAL	\$	36.00

2. **OAKS WALK IN REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER**

Anchor Fire Protection	Professional Services	\$	999.91
Fox Rothschild	Professional Services		
*Culinary Depot	Remove old Equip/Furnish &	\$	162.00
	Install New Refrigerator Freezer	\$	22,600.00
	TOTAL	\$	23,761.91

- C. 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.

- D. Checks:

1. **Weekly Checks prior to Work Session**

<u>February</u>	
Check No. 135194 – 135267	\$1,422,746.40
<u>March</u>	
Check No. 135268 – 135412	\$ 782,569.14

2. **Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting**

Check No. 135532 – 135621	\$ 682,078.52
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3. **Board Checks held for approval**

Check No. 135413 – 135531	\$ 151,602.17
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4. **Athletic Fund**

<u>February</u>	
Check No. 302301 – 302320	\$ 11,848.42

- E. The Board approved the following **independent contracts:**

1. **TheraPlay, Inc. – West Chester, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services shall include twelve (12) speech therapy sessions and six (6) physical therapy sessions at a rate of eighty-five dollars (\$85.00) per session. Funding will be paid from 2009-2010 Special Education IDEA Funds (\$510.00) and the 2010-2011 Special Education IDEA Funds (\$1,020.00) for a total not to exceed one thousand five hundred thirty dollars (\$1,530.00).
2. **Dr. Barbara Domingos - Media, PA.** Provide neuropsychological testing for a special needs student, up to three (3) direct sessions with the student, a written report reflecting the findings of the evaluation and consultation to the IEP team upon completion of the report. Funding will be paid from the 2009-2010 IDEA,

Part B, ARRA Stimulus Funds and shall not exceed one thousand four hundred dollars (\$1,400.00).

3. **Gateway Employment Resources, Inc. – Limerick, PA.** Provide community based transition work assessment services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for one hundred (100) hours at a rate of fifty-four dollars (\$54.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2009-2010 IDEA, Part B, ARRA Stimulus Funds and shall not exceed five thousand four hundred dollars (\$5,400.00).
4. **Community Service Foundation – Pipersville, PA.** Provide educational services for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP at a rate of one hundred fourteen dollars and fifty-eight cents (\$114.58) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2009-2010 IDEA, Part B, ARRA Stimulus Funds and shall not exceed nine thousand fifty-one dollars and eighty-two cents (\$9,051.82).
5. **Mrs. Claire Choutka – Limerick, PA.** Provide applied behavior analysis consultation in the school setting for a special education student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for two (2) hours per month for four (4) months at a rate of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2009-2010 IDEA, Part B, ARRA Stimulus Funds and shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).
6. **Progressions Academy – Stowe, PA.** Provide educational services for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided at a rate of one hundred twenty-three dollars and fifty cents (\$123.50) per day for eighty-seven (87) days. Funding will be paid from the 2009-2010 IDEA, Part B, ARRA Stimulus Funds and shall not exceed ten thousand seven hundred forty-four dollars and fifty cents (\$10,744.50).
7. **Camp Joy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide Extended School Year services for two (2) special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for sixty (60) days at a rate of one hundred fifty-four dollars (\$154.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2010-2011 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed nine thousand two hundred forty dollars (\$9,240.00).
8. **Cabrini College – Radnor, PA.** Provide Extended School Years services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the 2010-2011 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed four thousand one hundred thirty-five dollars (\$4,135.00).
9. **Magic Touch Entertainment – Canadensis, PA.** Provide two (2) student presentations and one (1) parent presentation entitled "The Brain Show" at Royersford Elementary. Funding will be paid by the 2009-2010 Royersford Elementary PTO and shall not exceed two thousand three hundred dollars (\$2,300.00).

10. **Magic Touch Entertainment – Canadensis, PA.** Provide two (2) presentations entitled “The Brain Show” at Spring City Elementary. Funding will be paid from the 2009-2010 Spring City Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00).
 11. **Bureau of Lectures & Concert Artist Inc. – Lawrence, KS.** Provide two (2) presentations entitled “Wildlife Show - Wild About Animals” at Upper Providence Elementary. Funding will be paid by the 2009-2010 Upper Providence Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed five hundred fifty dollars (\$550.00).
 12. **Steven Conway/Montgomery County SPCA – Conshohocken, PA.** Provide two (2) presentations for the kindergarten classes entitled “Basic Pet Care” at Upper Providence Elementary. There is no cost to the district for these presentations.
 13. **National Character Education Foundation – Zelienople, PA.** Provide a presentation at Upper Providence Elementary in conjunction with teaching the benefits of good character. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed nine hundred dollars (\$900.00).
- F. The Board approved Coyle, Lynch & Company to move forward with the second phase of appraisal services in preparation of the assessment appeal against SmithKline Beecham Corporation in Upper Providence Township. The cost of the second phase is \$75,000.00 and expands the preliminary report necessary for proceedings before the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas.
- G. The Board approved Vincent D. Quinn & Associates, Inc. to provide real estate appraisal/consulting services for the SEI Corporate Office Complex located in Lower Providence Township at a cost of \$12,500.00. Any appraisal work subsequent to the issuance of the report would be billed at a rate of \$250.00 per hour.
- H. The Board approved **Resolution #2010-09** urging legislative action on school employee pension reform.

New Finance:

Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Items I-J and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- I. The following Treasurers’ Reports were approved:
- General Fund
- Money Market – February 2010
 - PSDLAF – February 2010
 - PSDMAX – February 2010
 - Checking Account – February 2010
 - PLGIT Account – February 2010
 - Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule – February 2010
 - Payroll Account – February 2010
 - Tax Account – February 2010

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – February 2010
- 7th Grade Activity – February 2010
- 8th Grade Activity – February 2010
- High School Activity – February 2010
- Athletic Account – February 2010

Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – February 2010

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – February 2010
- Debt Service Fund – February 2010
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – February 2010

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – February 2010
- Cafeteria Checking Account – February 2010
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – February 2010
- Investment Account – February 2010

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

February

Check No. 9317 – 9351

\$ 260,696.95

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Item K and Mr. Shafer seconded it. Ms. Gudolonis said she did not have a question on Item K but rather on Item L. The motion passed 9-0.

K. The Board approved the proposed settlement of market values for Target Corporation involving a property located at 1820 Ridge Pike (Unit T) in Upper Providence Township (tax parcel #61-00-044230-00-7). The 2009 market value will be \$14 million and \$13.5 million for tax year 2010.

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve item L and Mr. Shafer seconded it. Ms. Gudolonis stated that Ludwig was considered but apparently they did not provide numbers for all of the items on the list but it is not clear why Mastroieni should be selected over Ludwig. Ms. Gudolonis said apart from this she believes from information she has gathered in the past that Mastroieni tends to be on the high side with their estimates and she would like to see another commercial realtor considered. Ms. Gudolonis recommended Sperry Van Ness saying they are a nationwide commercial realtor. Ms. Gudolonis said she would definitely like to see someone besides Mastroieni before the Board commits to anything.

Dr. Hurda reported that in reviewing both of the proposals Mr. Anspach felt that Mastroieni's proposal was more complete and clearer in terms on what would happen if we needed to move to phase 2 involving a second level appraisal. Dr. Hurda stated that we have dealt with Mastroieni many times in the past and they have been very comprehensive when we have had to move onto the next level.

Mr. Davis added that when Mr. Anspach spoke to him the feeling was that Mastroieni proposal was much more complete and with regards to the fee structure you do not know which one is going to be cheaper until you know what is going to happen. Mr. Davis stated that one gentleman made his proposal in a way that he was cheaper up front but if you had to go into phase 2 he was more expensive.

Ms. Gudolonis said we are looking at considering one appraiser and she would like to see another appraiser included. Ms. Gudolonis stated that from what she could see there was no follow-up with Ludwig on the incompleteness of their proposal. Ms. Gudolonis said Mastroieni gets a lot of our business and she would like to see other people considered.

Mr. Ciresi asked if there was a timeline and if we were under a crunch to get this done by a certain date. Mr. Davis replied that he believes we could certainly wait three weeks.

Mrs. Williams stated that when Mr. Anspach asks for quotes he does lay down the ground rules very clearly, Dr. Hurda confirmed this was correct. Mrs. Williams said this means that Ludwig who responded to the request for a quote did not do what they were supposed to do and now we want to give them a second chance for a quote. Mrs. Williams stated that she thinks that since Mastroieni was in compliance and the other quote was a bit hazy with what it would cost us if we went to phase 2 and since we have a motion and a second we should call the question. Mrs. Williams said we cannot lose any time on the assessment appeals and whether or not Mastroieni appears to get our business it really does not matter. Mrs. Williams commented that Mastroieni is very qualified and the Board should accept the recommendation of Mr. Anspach and the Administration on this.

Mr. DiBello said he believes that since we went out to two firms and one responded accordingly and the other did not necessarily go through all of the paperwork, he feels it would be beneficial to go to at least one more firm for a comparison. Mr. DiBello stated that if we have some room to play then he is fine with going to one more firm. Mrs. Williams reiterated that this is for nine appeals and not just one appeal. Mr. DiBello said he was aware of this.

The motion passed 6-3 with Mr. DiBello, Ms. Gudolonis and Mr. Pettit voting no.

- L. The administration has received quotes for an assessment appraisal for nine 2010 annual assessment appeals that are now before the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. The matters involve the following properties: Spring-Ford Country Club, Limerick Aviation LP, Quest Diagnostics Clinical, Reitnour Investment Properties - Limerick LP (Giant Food Stores, Inc), LABC 3 &4, LABC 6 LP, LABC 7 &8, LABC 16 LP, LABC 17 LP. Based on the quotes received, the Board approved the acceptance of appraisal services from Mastroieni & Associates, Inc at cost of \$13,000 for phase 1, and if necessary phase 2 for a cost of \$30,500.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items M-O and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- M. The Board approved the following **additions** from the per capita tax for the 2009 -2010 school year:
Upper Providence Township Additions No. 001 – 088
- N. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2009-2010 school year:
Limerick Township No. 042 – 043
- O. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits**:
Permits No. 3031 – 3081

VI. **PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM**

Ms. Gudolonis asked that items C-E be separated. Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. Mr. Ciresi reported that the Cool School Program will be held at Upper Providence Elementary this year instead of Royersford Elementary. Mr. Ciresi stated that the reason for this move was that the program has been growing and the new location would allow for more space for the program to operate, give parents easier access to get in and out of the building, and conserve energy by moving summer programming to one building. Dr. Hurda added that the district is looking into consolidating all of the summer programs into just a few buildings so that we do not have to run all of our buildings at full capacity all summer which will in turn produce a cost savings for the district. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board approved the Cool School Program, as part of the Spring-Ford Community Education Program. This program will be held at Upper Providence Elementary School from June 28 through July 2 and July 12 through July 23, 2010. This program is open to all elementary students. Two sessions will be held each day from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. The reading and math classes will operate from June 28 through July 9 and July 12 through July 23, 2010. Approximately 40 teachers will instruct the courses and their reimbursement will be at the contract-established rate of \$30.00 per hour. **There will be no cost to the district** as all expenses will be covered by the student tuition fees of \$65.00 per course for residents and \$75.00 per course for non-residents.
- B. The Board approved the yearly renewal with Scientific Learning for the Fast ForWord Support and Progress Tracker Agreements at a cost of \$3,500.00. Funding will be paid from the 2009-2010 Curriculum and Instruction Budget and shall not exceed \$3,500.00.

New Programming and Curriculum:

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Item C and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Ms. Gudolonis said her question applies to Items C-E and asked if something that is being paid from IDEA Funds meant that there was no cost to the district. Dr. Hurda responded that there is no cost to the district in terms of running those programs because IDEA Funds are Federal Funds that come to us to support Special Education Programs. Dr. Hurda commented that we choose to use a large portion of our funding to run our Extended School Year Program. Dr. Hurda said we have not received our 2010-2011 allocation yet but this is how those programs are funded.

The motion passed 9-0.

- C. The Board approved the 2010 Extended School Year (ESY) Program and positions identified below to be held at Upper Providence Elementary School, Limerick Elementary School, 5/6th Grade Center, 7th Grade Center, and the Senior High School. The program will run from June 28, 2010 to July 30, 2010 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (no classes Monday, July 5, 2010). There will be two additional work days for teachers, June 24, 2010 and August 2, 2010. Funding for these positions will be provided through the 2010-2011 Special Education IDEA Funds. It is estimated that the following positions will be required to support the ESY Program based upon projected enrollment:
1. Eighteen (18) Special Education Teachers at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
 2. Nine (9) Teachers to work as tutors at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
 3. Three (3) certified Speech Therapists at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
 4. Forty (40) Instructional Assistants. The rates will vary between \$14.80 - \$16.80 per hour depending on experience and educational degree.
 5. One (1) Certified School Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items D-E and Mrs. Williams seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- D. The Board gave approval for the Spring-Ford Area School District speech therapist to conduct pre-tests for approximately twenty-five (25) students as required by the Fast ForWord 2010 Summer Program. The therapist will be paid at the contractual rate of \$30.00 per hour, not to exceed \$750.00. Funding is from the 2009-2010 Special Education IDEA Funds.
- E. The Board gave approval for the Fast ForWord 2010 Summer Program to be held at the Intermediate 5/6 Center for twenty-four (24) days beginning Monday, June 28 through Friday July 30, 2010 (no classes Monday, July 5, 2010). The cost to students not utilizing Fast ForWord as part of their ESY Program will be \$140.00. Two (2) additional days for the teachers and instructional assistants will be needed for training and preparation before the start of the program and for completion of reports after the program. Total cost will not exceed \$5,000.00. The cost will be paid from tuition collected and supplemented if necessary from the 2010-2011 Special Education IDEA Funds.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion for Items F-H and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- F. The Board approved the Summer Instrumental Program for grades 4-12, under the direction of Ms. Kris Noel Jennings, Music Department Chair, to be held at the Intermediate 5/6 Center. The program would run for 5 weeks, in conjunction with the district's summer school program, from Monday, June 28 through Friday, July 30, 2010 (no classes Monday, July 5, 2010). Weekly lessons will be offered to students on a tuition basis, **there will be no cost to the school district.** The

cost would be \$16.50 per half hour private lesson. All tuition money that is collected would be submitted to the Business Office and the teachers would be paid at the current summer school salary rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits.

- G. The Board approved the Summer Strings Program to be held at the Intermediate 5/6 Center for grades 4-10. The program would run for 5 weeks, in conjunction with the district summer school program, from Monday, June 28 through Friday, July 30, 2010 (no classes Monday, July 5, 2010). Weekly lessons will be offered to students on a tuition basis, **there will be no cost to the school district**. The cost would be \$16.50 per half hour private lesson. All tuition money that is collected would be submitted to the Business Office and the teachers would be paid at the current summer school salary rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits.
- H. The Board approved Camp Invention. Camp Invention is a hands-on, creativity and science summer camp for elementary students that will run from 6/28/10 – 7/01/10. This camp will be held at Brooke Elementary School. These programs will be run at no cost to the district.

VII. PROPERTY

Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Items A-D and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board approved seeking bids/quotes for Filters to maintain indoor air quality throughout the school district. Funding will come from the 2009-2010 General Fund – Maintenance Budget.

New Property:

- B. The Board approved seeking bids/quotes to replace worn and damaged carpet with Vinyl Composition Tile (VCT), as needed in classrooms throughout the school district (as identified in the 2009-2010 Maintenance Budget). Funding will come from the 2009-2010 General Fund – Maintenance Budget.
- C. The Board approved seeking bids/quotes for Phase III of the installation of wall tile at the 8th Grade Center (as identified in the 2009-2010 Maintenance Budget). Funding will come from the amount approved in the 2009-2010 General Fund – Maintenance Budget.
- D. The Board approved seeking bids/quotes to upgrade and expand the existing security camera system at the High School and Ninth Grade Center. High School Administration has identified 50 new locations to place cameras augmenting the existing 32. The Ninth Grade Center currently has no cameras; administration has identified 15 internal locations and 3 external locations for cameras. The project is estimated to be in the range of \$80,000 to be funded under the High School Addition Project.

VIII. PSBA REPORT/MCIU REPORTS

Tom DiBello

Mr. DiBello reported that House Appropriations Committee Chairman Dwight Evans sent House Bill 2279 to the House floor on March 8, 2010. This bill is almost identical to the Governor's budget. It should be voted on today and sent to the Senate. In both

the Governor's budget and this house bill you are looking at an increase of \$354 million for basic education. The Senate Committee is looking at all of the issues surrounding the PSERS Program and ways that they will be able to have programs in place to lessen the burden in short term on the taxpayers. The Department of Revenue announced that Pennsylvania collected \$1.5 billion in General Fund revenue in February, about \$102.3 million, or 6.4 %, less than anticipated. Fiscal year-to-date General Fund collections total \$16 billion, which is \$476.7 million or 2.9 %, below estimate. Mr. DiBello pointed out that even at the state level the revenues are coming in lower than anticipated and budgeted. PDE is looking at their fee structure for acquiring new certifications. Currently, the Bureau spends nearly \$1 million more than it receives in fees to process certification requests so they are looking at changing their fee structure in order to make up the difference. Pennsylvania is one of eight states selected to pilot a program aimed at "early graduation" for 10th graders. The pilot program is being provided through a \$1.5 million grant by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Ten to twenty high schools in each state will participate in the volunteer program slated to begin in the fall of 2011. Students who volunteer to participate will take exams at the end of 10th grade, and should they pass, be given a high school diploma and opportunity to enroll the next fall as a full-time student at any two- or four-year open admissions post-secondary institute in the state. Students who pass may also choose to remain in high school and take a program of study designed to prepare them for entrance into a selective college. Any student who does not pass the lower division high school exams on the first try will be offered a customized program designed to help him/her succeed on the next attempt. Pennsylvania was selected as one of 16 finalists in the \$4 billion federal Race to the Top (RTTT) grant competition; the Commonwealth could receive up to \$400 million if ultimately selected when first-round winners are announced in April.

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Mr. Ciresi commented on Item B and said with regards to technology it has been a few years since the district began using the Connect-ED or the Skyward System. Mr. Ciresi stated that this has been one of the most beneficial systems that the district has adopted in a very long time. Mr. Ciresi said that parents get a call when their child has no money left in their account, when it snows, when there is a production or sporting event so this has been a really great investment.

Mrs. Williams commented on Item C saying Mr. McDaniel appears to be attending this conference at his own cost and she wanted to thank him for this. Mr. Shafer asked why we are paying for some while Mr. McDaniel is paying his own way. Dr. Hurda replied that it speaks to the kind of person Mr. McDaniel is. He wants to attend the conference but he feels that he needs to set an example for the people he supervises such as all of the coaches that we have limited in terms of their ability to participate. Dr. Hurda reported that Mr. McDaniel came forward and said he would like to attend the conference and do it at his own expense. Dr. Hurda said this sets an example for what we as a district are trying to do. Dr. Hurda pointed out that on the agenda over the last few months we have had a large number of our teachers and administrators who have offered to pay for their own conferences and have not put in for mileage when they attend these conferences. Dr. Hurda commented that this is a statement that all of the district is trying to do everything they can to be fiscally responsible in this

district. Dr. Hurda said Mr. McDaniel sets a great example for the rest of the district and she thanked him for this.

The motion passed 9-0.

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

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Edward T. Dressler** and **Clara M. Gudolonis**, Board Members, to attend "*Green Building in Schools Symposium*" at the Delaware County Intermediate Unit on Wednesday, April 28, 2010. The total cost of this symposium is \$78.00 from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.
- B. **Gary L. Spohn**, Director of Technology, **Susan Gallagher**, Software Field Technician, **Judy Kuhns**, Technology Integration Specialist, **Sarah Sacks**, Software Specialist, and **Mary Quintrell**, Bookkeeper to attend "*Skyward State User Group Training Conference*" in Harrisburg, PA on Thursday, April 29, 2010. This conference will provide the staff with the required updates/training on the Skyward System. The total cost for this conference is \$435.00 from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- C. **Michael McDaniel**, Athletic Director, to attend "*Pennsylvania State Athletic Directors Association Conference*" in Hershey, PA from Tuesday, March 22 through Saturday, March 27, 2010. There is no cost to the district for this conference as all fees are being paid by Mr. McDaniel. No substitute is needed.
- D. **Katie Baker**, Teacher, to attend "*Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Information Day*" at Indiana University of Pennsylvania on Friday, March 12, 2010. There is no cost to the district for this conference other than \$150.00 from the substitute account.

LIMERICK

- E. **Jan Pymer**, Teacher, to attend "*Pennsylvania Alternative System of Assessment Conference: Teaching Science to Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities*" on Saturday, March 20, 2010 at PaTTAN in Harrisburg, PA. The total cost of this conference is \$115.00. No substitute is needed.

New Conference/Workshop Recommendations:

- F. **Yvonne O'Dea**, Choral Director, to attend "*PA Music Educator's Annual Conference*" on April 21, 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA. Mrs. O'Dea will be accompanying two high school students who were selected to the All-State Chorus. The total cost

for this conference is \$1075.00 - \$775.00 from the 580 account and \$300.00 from the substitute account.

- G. **Tina Weigner**, Teacher and Special Education Department Chairperson, to attend "*Co-Teaching in the Inclusive Classroom: Practical Strategies for Success*" on April 27, 2010 in Allentown, PA. The total cost of this conference is \$423.27 - \$273.37 from the 2009-2010 Special Education Budget and \$150.00 from the substitute account.
- H. **Jessica Mecleary**, Teacher, to attend "*Meeting the Communication Challenges of Learners with Autism*" on April 30, 2010 at PaTTAN in King of Prussia. There is no cost for this conference other than \$150.00 from the substitute account.
- I. **Brian Aikens**, Teacher, to attend "*Assessment & Treatment of Selective Mutism*" on April 23, 2010 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Philadelphia, PA. The total cost for this conference is \$349.00 – \$199.00 from the 2009-2010 Special Education Budget and \$150.00 from the substitute account.
- J. **Judy Kuhns**, Technology Integration Specialist, to attend "*Technology for the 21st Century*" at Villanova University on Thursday, April 22, 2010. There is no cost to the district for this conference and no substitute is needed.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Mullin asked that Item C be separated. Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mrs. Williams seconded it. Mr. Ciresi clarified for the public that the last student day of school is June 17th and the last day for teachers is June 18th as long as we do not have another snow storm. Graduation is set for June 16th with a rain date of June 17, 2010. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board approved the final student calendar for the 2009-2010 school year. The original calendar reflected 184 student days and 195 teacher days. To date the district has found it necessary to cancel school on 3 occasions due to inclement weather. The final calendar now contains 181 student days. The last student day will be Thursday, June 17, 2010; the last teacher day will be Friday, June 18, 2010. The approval is based upon the district not requiring the use of any additional snow or emergency days between the date of approval and the last student day. Should snow or emergency day(s) occur, the calendar will be revised to reflect 180 student days.
- B. The Board approved for the Spring-Ford Area School District Graduation Commencement to be set for the evening of Wednesday, June 16, 2010 in Coach McNelly Stadium. The rain date for graduation will be Thursday, June 17, 2010.

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Item C and Mrs. Williams seconded it.

Mrs. Mullin said she had asked Dr. Hurda last week to get some feedback from teachers regarding Thanksgiving week and she wondered if Dr. Hurda was able to get any. Dr. Hurda replied that she met with the representatives of the Association on Thursday and their feeling at this point was that the teacher's supported this. The Association indicated that they not go back and readdress it this year but would

address this well ahead of time for next year. Mr. Ciresi confirmed that the first day of school for the 2010 – 2011 school year will be August 30, 2010.
The motion passed 9-0.

C. Administration recommends approval of the 2010-2011 school calendar.

New Other Business:

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item D and Mrs. Mullin seconded it.

Mr. Ciresi asked how many foreign exchange students we take per year. Dr. Hurda responded that our policy allows us to take two but generally it is just one. Mr. Ciresi said he thinks this is a great program and another way for us to keep expanding on a global basis.

Mr. Dehnert asked how many students we typically send abroad per year. Dr. Hurda replied that she does not recall any Spring-Ford student in recent years participating in the Rotary International Youth Exchange Program. Mr. Nugent confirmed this was correct.

The motion passed 9-0.

- D. The Board approved the admission of Pierre Baty, a foreign exchange student, for the 2010-2011 school year. Pierre is from Laval, France and is sponsored by the Rotary International Youth Exchange. Rotary International has a long-standing relationship with the Spring-Ford Area School District, placing students annually.

XI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Dr. Hurda reported that she tried to put the goals into broad categories looking first at all of the district goals that were identified around the Board table, correlating them with the goals identified in the strategic plan and then finding a way to correlate them in some way with the goals identified for her. Dr. Hurda said there is a common thread through many of the goals that the Board identified. Many of the goals had to do with curriculum and instruction. Dr. Hurda read a list of the goals showing the similarities between the goals the Board identified, what Superintendent Evaluation Committee identified, and those set forth in the Strategic Plan. Dr. Hurda stated that it is important that we are all working on the same goals even though they may not say the same thing they ultimately all surround the same issues.

Mr. Dressler asked to amend the goal he proposed to expand it to include Leadership Energy Environment and Design (LEED) Certification for each building as this is a program that is going on throughout the country and he would like to see us get onboard with it. Mr. Dehnert asked who this group is, what is the benefit and what is the cost? Mr. Dressler said it is a building organization whose goal is to internationally recognize green building certification systems. The group examines all the aspects of the building such as energy saving, water efficiency, Co2 emissions, improved indoor environment quality, stewardship of resources and their sensitivity to the impacts of those resources. Mr. Dehnert questioned who this group was and Mr. Dressler responded they are under the group called the U.S. Green Building Council. Mr. Dressler further explained that as far as the cost goes this group just provides guidelines and if you adopt those guidelines then it gets you certified as a LEED

Certified Building. Mr. Dehnert asked what this gets us and Mr. Dressler replied that it gets you the satisfaction that you are doing the right thing for the people in your buildings. You are creating an environment for them and a system of buildings that are energy efficient and gets the best results for the money that is invested in those buildings.

Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Cooper to discuss LEED Certification. Mr. Cooper said he just went to PASBO and attended approximately 4 conferences with architects and engineers and some of the round table discussions pertained to this certification. Mr. Cooper said there are different levels of certification (gold, platinum, etc.) Mr. Cooper said we try to use whatever we can to protect the environment but some of the LEED requirements involve items that you will never see pay for themselves. He gave an example of a hot water heater that would take 35 years to pay for itself with energy savings but the life expectancy of the equipment would only be 15 years. Mr. Cooper said he does try to follow most of the energy efficient guidelines but when it comes to the purchase of some of the larger items he tries to make sure that the cost we put out is something we can recoup over the life of the item. Mr. Cooper stated that he does not feel that a LEEDS Certification on the wall is necessarily good stewardship of tax dollars.

Mr. Ciresi asked if paint and cleaning products fall under LEEDS Certification Program and Mr. Cooper responded these items generally fall under the "green" category as the LEEDS Program deals mainly with building products. Mr. Cooper explained that the cleaning products we use do not contain any harmful chemicals.

Mr. Ciresi asked if Dr. Hurda knew of any state or federal grants under the "Green Initiative" for district, municipalities or government entities to move in this direction. Dr. Hurda replied that she is certain there are some grants available but she has not investigated these as of yet. Mr. Cooper said he just met with an engineer on this today and Pennsylvania has something called "Split Share Fund" that although it is not a grant per say it is a matched funds type of program. Mr. Cooper reported that he is researching this and will have information on this at the next Property Committee meeting.

Mr. Ciresi asked the other Board Members for input on the goals.

Mr. Pettit said his concern on the curriculum and student improvement goals is that they are measurable. Mr. Pettit said this would be very helpful in seeing that there are achievements being made.

Mr. Dehnert said he would like to see us set goals for where we want to be each year so that we can measure to see how we are doing in order to implement the right plans to get us to those goals.

Mr. Ciresi asked if Board wants to discuss the goals here or pass it back to the Curriculum Committee for a recommendation.

Mrs. Williams commented that we are really tight from the financial standpoint and if we are not going to fund these issues in the curriculum then there is no point in bringing back a recommendation.

Mr. Dehnert stated that things like SAT scores and academic achievement is what we spend all of this money for and if we do not get academic achievement at a certain level then we need to know what the cost is to get to that level so we can determine whether it is worth spending the money or not. Mrs. Williams said she understands this but if we enlarge the pool of students that we encourage to take the SATs then our scores will go down so she would like to know how many students do take the SATs versus other school districts. Mr. Pettit added that part of the measurement could be the number of students who are taking the SATs and not just the scores. Mr. Dehnert stated that he has not looked at the statistics for all of the schools in terms of the percentage of students who take the SATs and their scores but his recollection is that Spring-Ford is within the norm for the percentage of students taking the SATs.

Dr. Hurda said she recalls that, before becoming a Board Member, Mr. Ciresi had asked for a breakdown of where we stood in terms of how we performed against other schools in the state and how we performed against other schools in the nation. Dr. Hurda reported that at that time she prepared a memo for everyone on the Board and in light of the new Board Members she will pull that memo out and resend it to everyone in order to give a sense of where we are right now.

Mr. Ciresi commented that with regards to Mrs. William's concerns about the financial situation of the district there will be some things that will be impossible to do without money but there are other things that money cannot buy. Some initiatives no matter how much money you pour into them you will not change the outcome but we do need to move forward on this because the longer we take the further away from the time span we have. Mr. Ciresi asked that the goals be sent back to the various committees for discussion.

Mr. Dehnert commented on Mr. Dressler and Mr. Cooper's comments that we should be looking to see where we can save money with energy on those items that can pay for themselves. Mr. Dehnert felt this should be part of our goals.

Mr. DiBello asked for clarification that the goals were going back to the committees for discussion and Mr. Ciresi confirmed this and went over which goals would be sent to which committee. Mr. DiBello asked if the thoughts were to narrow down the goals and the response was yes.

Mrs. Williams asked what time period the goals covered and the response was the 2010-2011 school year.

A. District Goals

XII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Davis reported that the Property Committee look at the 10th Avenue issues that he needs some direction on. Mr. Davis said he sent some correspondence and he could outline it further but there are some issues such as maintenance and engineering review that he needs to know what the Board's negotiating posture is. Mr. Davis said he could provide the Board with some maps for further clarification.

XIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

There were no comments from the public.

Ms. Gudolonis stated that she is very unhappy with accepting one appraisal, the only one submitted that was complete, and she feels we need more than one before making a selection. Ms. Gudolonis suggested that we get three appraisal bids every time.

Mr. Dehnert asked about the roughly \$6 million from the bids that came in under the estimated costs on the high school construction project wondering if we could get a plan together for that money. Ms. Gudolonis stated that she had a two hour meeting with Mr. Anspach earlier this week and asked him plain out if we had to spend the money and Mr. Anspach told her no. Mr. Dehnert said the information that was provided on this showed that the bonds were ten year bonds and that we could not earn interest on the money but we can put it towards capital projects. Mr. Dehnert said we do have the money and we will have things that will need to be done in the coming years so we might as well fund those out of that money instead of letting them become part of tax increase in those coming years.

Mr. Davis said he agrees that if you are going to spend the money to fall within the federal guidelines and not be in violation of your bond as Mr. Anspach suggested in his memo then you should have a spending plan within a reasonable period of time.

Ms. Gudolonis stated that in her conversation with Mr. Anspach she was told that we can earn interest on the money although Mr. Anspach was not clear on what constituted a reasonable period of time and suggested that the Board get a solicitor's feedback on this because of when the arbitrage rate would go into effect and any money earned above the arbitrage rate would be subject to taxes on the interest.

Mr. Davis stated that the district was there already and could not make any money on arbitrage. Mr. Davis said you could earn interest but you cannot earn any more interest than you are paying. Mr. Davis added that if you are going to spend the money then you need to have a plan because you cannot just leave the money sit.

Mr. Pettit asked if there was some way to utilize the money to pay down the debt sometime in the future and Mr. Davis replied you cannot call the bonds for ten years. Mr. Davis said the point Mr. Anspach makes in his memo is that because of your upfront costs such as underwriting, counsel fees, printing, etc. financially it would be a judgment call but it would make some economic sense to spend the money.

Mr. Dehnert said if he recalls Mr. Anspach stated we would have to recall all of the bond. Mr. Davis said you cannot do anything since you would have to essentially escrow the money until you can start to prepay which would be ten years. Mr. Davis commented that you can certainly do that but you must look at the economic viability of that since you already paid a significant cost to borrow the money. Mr. Dehnert stated that the point is that we cannot do much with the money for ten years, we cannot earn interest on it and we would be lucky to break even on it. Mr. Dehnert further commented that we are going to have capital needs in the next coming years so we might as well take a look at what they are and use the money for its purpose and not let it sit there and devalue.

Mr. Pettit said he does not disagree with Mr. Dehnert and if there are things to be spent on that's fine but he just wants to be certain that we are not just spending it because it is there. Mr. Pettit stated if we can find some way to utilize it to cut into our debt service then that should be considered. Mr. Dehnert said that would be ten years out.

Mr. Davis commented that possibly the Board would want Mr. Murray to take a look and see what the options are in terms of advance escrow. Mr. Dehnert stated that he understands we should not just spend money but let's get a plan for things we are going to have on the table. Mr. Pettit said he has no problem with this and we need a plan if we are going to spend the money but be certain it is utilized for necessity. Mr. Davis said in order to be in the IRS guidelines for the tax free you would need to have a plan. Ms. Gudolonis asked if Mr. Davis knew what the arbitrage rate was and Mr. Davis responded he did not know but the underwriter would be able to give you this information.

Mr. DiBello said he sent an email to Mr. Ciresi and Dr. Hurda regarding the investigation of a company who installs solar panels and he asked if it would be possible to get an update on this. Mr. Cooper replied that on Wednesday he is going to Hatboro-Horsham and will get some information on this.

Mr. Ciresi stated that a lot of people do not see behind the scenes and we thanked some of the volunteers that were here tonight but we also had a lot of administration spent the weekend in the district at the SNAP event and the high school rehearsal of Beauty and the Beast. Mr. Ciresi thanked all the staff who volunteer their time and especially Dr. Hurda who got very little sleep this past weekend. Mr. Ciresi stated that SNAP is always looking for volunteers from people who are willing to stay up through the night for the post prom party and he would tell any Board Member present tonight that this is a wonderful event for you to participate in even if you only stay until midnight. Mr. Ciresi said this is a wonderful opportunity to see and meet the kids who come to the post prom party and it is a wonderful event. Mr. Ciresi asked everyone to please support this organization.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Shafer seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Fern
Board Secretary