

On March 26, 2007, the board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:39 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Williams commented that the Board met in an executive session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel. Mrs. Williams announced that Spring-Ford Area High School will join with three other area high schools for the 2007 Regional High School Art Consortium Show which is being held from March 30 to April 2 at the Phoenix Village Art Center where students Ed Lochocki, Mike Platco, Alex Duncan and Lauren Mezaros will display their work. Spring-Ford High School will present "The Sound of Music" on Friday, March 30 and Saturday, March 31. A special matinee performance for senior citizens will be held on Thursday, March 29. A College/Career Fair will be held on Thursday, March 29 at Spring-Ford Area High School from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Auxiliary Gym where representatives from over ninety post-secondary institutions will be on hand to discuss post-graduation plans with students and parents.

I. PRESENTATION

Mrs. Connie Willauer, Gifted Support Teacher, commented that the National Geographic Society holds a Geographic Bee each year in order to encourage students to pursue the study of Geography. Alexander Jin won the competition which was held at Royersford Elementary which then gave him the opportunity to take a qualifying test to determine if he could advance to the state round level. This test was a written test through which Alexander competed against all of the other students in Pennsylvania in grades 4-8. Alexander did quite well on this test and as a result he will compete at Shippensburg University on March 30 for the State Title and the right to go on to the National Geographic Bee in Washington, DC. Mrs. Willauer introduced Alexander Jin and he was recognized for his accomplishment. Alexander thanked Dr. Hurda and Mrs. Willauer for their support. He thanked Mrs. Willauer for helping him to study and Dr. Hurda for

supplying him with the books he needed in order to study and prepare for the competition.

- A. Recognition of Alexander Jin, a sixth grade student, for winning the school round of the National Geographic Bee and qualifying as one of fifty students to participate in the PA Geographic Bee at Shippensburg University on March 30, 2007.

Mr. McDaniel introduced the Spring-Ford High School Girls' Basketball Team and recognized their efforts for winning the Pioneer Conference Championship. The team has won back to back PAC 10 Championships. Mr. McDaniel introduced Mr. Jeff Rinehimer, the coach. Mr. Rinehimer thanked Mr. McDaniel, the Athletic Program, the School Board, and the Administration for their support. Dr. Hurda commented that she believes it is a wonderful thing to recognize the team for their wonderful season but more than that the Girls' are good students, great citizens, good sportswomen as well as outstanding athletes. Mrs. Williams presented the coach on behalf of the team with a framed copy of Board approved Resolution #2007-09.

- B. Presentation of **Resolution #2007-09** to the Spring-Ford High School Girls' Basketball Team commending them for winning the Pioneer Athletic Conference Championship.

Mr. McDaniel said as the Athletic Director you get the privilege to interact and work with coaches and student athletes who take the importance of athletics to another level and this is an example of another group that does this. Mr. McDaniel said the coaches and these student athletes do this not only on the mats but off the mats as well through discipline and sportsmanship. Mr. McDaniel introduced the coaches Mr. Doug Landis and Mr. Chad Strickler. Mr. Landis thanked Mr. McDaniel and the Board for recognizing the team and their accomplishments. Mr. Landis said this year was very exciting as they were the District 1 Champions for the Junior High Level. Mr. Landis introduced each member of the team. Dr. Hurda complimented the team on representing the District well, demonstrating good sportsmanship and building skills that will carry the High School Wrestling Team well into the future. Dr. Hurda congratulated the team and Mrs. Williams presented the coaches on behalf of the team with a framed copy of Dr. Hurda presented the coaches with a framed copy of Board approved Resolution #2007-10.

- C. Presentation of **Resolution #2007-10** to the Spring-Ford Junior High Wrestling Team for their 7-0 season record and first place finish in both the Southeastern Classic and the Perkiomen Valley Tournament.

Mr. Stephen Parks and Mr. Ben Burns presented an overview of the report that was prepared for the District showing an athletic facilities assessment and site utilization analysis. The report showed aerial photos of all the district fields and their present condition. The District presently has approximately forty-seven acres of athletic fields that are currently being utilized and maintained by the school district. Mr. Parks commented that the District is facing some significant challenges regarding the utilization and maintenance of the athletic facilities such as the limited opportunity for expansion and the population increase in the next

ten years. The present athletic facilities are pretty much maxed out and those fields receiving less usage are in better condition than those that are used more often. Mr. Parks said he believes that some of the fields are at a point where additional maintenance will not produce significant returns which is an ongoing challenge and presents safety issues. Mr. Parks reported on the athletic areas needing attention such as the stadium and the high school campus facilities. Mr. Parks said the report shows that the District is basically overusing the fields they have and clearly the District must choose to upgrade existing fields and develop additional fields. Mr. Parks said there are four different levels of recommendation for the fields, level 1 is maintenance, level 2 is turf re-grading, level 3 is total field reconstruction and level 4 is synthetic turf. The use tolerance of fields for each of these levels is as follows, level 1 or 2 will sustain up to 50 uses per year, level 3 will sustain up to 70 uses per year with aggressive maintenance, and level 4 will sustain an unlimited number of uses the only limits would be with scheduling restrictions. Mr. Parks went through the recommended improvements for each of the athletic field locations and the estimated cost range for these improvements. The report covered all the athletic programs, their practice and game time use of fields as well as the number of participants for each program.

Mr. Morgan asked Mr. Parks to go over Table C in the report which showed a comparison of field surface costs, sod versus synthetic turf, and the number of events each of field surfaces would support. Mr. Parks explained the difference between the two types of field surfaces and compared the initial cost, labor for maintenance, equipment, maintenance supplies, and field replacement costs. The chart showed that while the initial cost for the synthetic turf was much higher, \$830,000.00 as opposed to \$275,000.00 and the total ten year cost would also be higher, \$959,000.00 as opposed to \$510,000.00, the number of events supported would be much higher for the synthetic turf 2550 as opposed to 550 and therefore give you a lower cost per event, \$376.00 as opposed to \$927.00.

Mr. Pettit commented that the one number that jumps out at him is the \$7.3 million dollar grand total for the high school fields, and the 7, 8, and 9 grade fields. This amount represents about 6-7% of the District's total budget for athletic fields. Mr. Pettit asked if we could possibly eliminate other fields by putting in a synthetic field thereby using this synthetic field to a greater degree since this type of surface gives us an expanded number of uses. Mr. Parks said the District is blessed with a lot of land and he feels that if we were to build a few synthetic fields then we could take out possibly one or two current fields, the only limits would be with the scheduling issues.

Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Parks to compare how Spring-Ford ranks as compared with other districts as far as the amount of fields we have and Mr. Parks said Spring-Ford is ranked in the top ten percentile. Mr. Ciresi commented that as he looked through the report he feels the 7th Grade Field should become one of the top priorities since it is in such bad shape and he wondered if we were to begin work on this field now how long it would take to complete. Mr. Burns said in order for the field to be in shape for next fall the District should have already started the work as there are serious drainage issues which will not get any better through surface applications or turf work as this field must be re-engineered in order to function. Mr. Ciresi asked how much of the field would have to be taken out of commission and Mr. Burns said typically on a field that must be used immediately

you would re-sod it. The typical scenario would be to do your engineering work, re-grade the field and then re-sod it over the summer months in preparation for fall use. Mr. Grispon said the question is what use you have for the field, would it be for just playground use or varsity games. Mr. Grispon said you must figure this out before you do anything to the field. Mr. Ciresi commented that there is a recommendation for use of this field and he knows the public use the field for a lot of different events. Mr. Grispon said his point is that the work required on the field would be different if the field would be used for varsity games as opposed to community use.

Mr. Masciandaro asked how Spring-Ford fares in terms of field conditions and Mr. Parks and Burns said average. Mr. Burns said the fields are not high use fields meaning they will not take a lot use before they start to come apart which is a sign of poor soil and poor drainage. Mr. Masciandaro asked how many total fields the District has and Mr. Parks said 24 fields. Mr. Masciandaro asked how many fields were being recommended for synthetic turf and Mr. Parks said two for sure but possibly three. Mr. Parks said they were not recommending the stadium as this field does not get extremely intense use. Mr. Masciandaro said this field does not get a lot of use because it is a natural grass field and we do not want to kill it. Mr. Parks said they felt the money should be spent for the practice areas since there a much greater utilization and this would allow the stadium to be maintained at a higher level as a natural grass field, as long as the use is limited to forty events a year there should not be any problem with it.

Mr. Grispon asked about the page in the report that referenced the construction of the football stadium which showed the stadium as being synthetically turfed and Mr. Parks said that was an error as they did not intend on putting this type of surface in the stadium. Mr. Grispon asked why you would not recommend putting synthetic turf in the stadium when the infrastructure is already there and to build new synthetic fields you would have to build the infrastructure and light the field as well. Mr. Parks said his understanding was that the District did not want to pound the stadium on a daily basis but use this facility for the premier events. Mr. Grispon said the stadium gets pounded on a daily basis now as it seems like the lights are on all the time. Mr. Davis said one thing the District must look into is where you can put lights at due to zoning regulations.

Mr. Pettit asked what the District has spent over the past 4-5 years on maintenance of the 24 existing fields; Dr. Hurda said she would get this information and send it home to the Board Members in their packets.

Mr. Rocchio commented that he liked the walkways and the additional parking that was included in the report. Mr. Rocchio asked if the track was not expanded how much savings would be realized and Mr. Parks said not much. Mr. Rocchio said he would like Administration to get back to the Property Committee with a field analysis and usage report as he feels if we put some synthetic fields down we should be able to do away with a bunch of fields not just one or two.

Mrs. Williams thanked Mr. Parks and Mr. Burns for their time. She asked Dr. Hurda for a field usage schedule so that this could be sent back to the Property Committee and she asked the Board Members who may have additional concerns to contact Mr. Morgan the Property Committee Chairman.

- D. Presentation by Steve Parks of the field assessment and site utilization plan developed by Stephen Parks and Associates, Landscape Architects, Hollidaysburg, PA.

II. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no questions or comments.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- A. The Board approved the February 7, 2007 special meeting minutes.
- B. The Board approved the February 12, 2007 work session minutes.
- C. The Board approved of the February 20, 2007 board meeting minutes.

IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Relations Donna L. Williams 2nd Mon. 8:15 p.m.

Mrs. Williams reported that the Act 1 Newsletter would be going out to the Community within the next ten days. Mrs. Williams said Mr. Spohn informed the Committee that he is still trying to make contact with the various townships on the public access channel and he will report back at the next meeting. The Committee reviewed the District's Rebalancing Plan and they strongly felt this project was a huge success. Mr. Ciresi said they are looking at the possibility as a community and as a board of invite the Mayor of Limerick, Ireland and the principal of an elementary school to come to the opening ceremonies for Evans Elementary School since it is named for one of the founding fathers of Limerick Ireland. Mr. Ciresi said there were discussions at Community Relations with some of the members of the Limerick Supervisors to incorporate this over the weekend that the Limerick Days Celebration takes place which is the weekend of September 7-9. Mr. Ciresi said the hopes are to begin a relationship with our sister community, that we are named for, to hopefully expand our relationship on an educational basis where we could possibly develop a student exchange program with Limerick, Ireland as well as possibly set up a closed circuit satellite uplink. Mr. Ciresi said with the Board's approval they would like to get the Chamber of Commerce or some civic organization to help bring these people over to begin this relationship. Dr. Hurda said although she was not able to attend the initial meeting she understands it was very productive and she just wants to make sure we do not step on anyone's toes with the exchange program. Dr. Hurda said a program that has been very success is one where our high school students are able to go to another country for a short period of time. Dr. Hurda said her experience has been with a German exchange program where our students went over for three weeks while German students came here for the same period of time. Dr. Hurda said that provides an opportunity for a larger number of students to participate since the commitment is for a short period of time as opposed to committing for the whole year. Dr. Hurda said this is in the infancy stage and she is very hesitant to talk about this publicly until the details are worked out. Dr. Hurda said her understanding is that we have a commitment but the issue will be the money needed to bring these people here

as the District cannot support the cost of bringing the Limerick, Ireland Mayor and Principal. Dr. Hurda said she hopes this will be a community supported event and she believes the Rotary and the Chamber of Commerce have offered their support. Dr. Hurda thanked Mr. Ciresi for his efforts in making this happen.

V. PERSONNEL

Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Items A-H with the addition of A5 and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

A. Resignations:

1. **Robert A. Brownback**, Middle School; Principal, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2007.
2. **Paige N. Jacobson**, High School; English Teacher, effective February 23, 2007.
3. **Jacqueline A. Cameron**, Middle School; Secretary, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2007.

New Resignation:

4. **Jennifer M. Keown**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, effective March 14, 2007.

B. Leaves of Absence:

1. **Michele Brant Miller**, High School 10-12 Grade Center; Gifted Support Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Professional Agreement, effective tentatively May 12, 2007 through the 1st semester of the 2007/2008 school year.
2. **Scott Burr**, Upper Providence Elementary School; 1st Grade Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 5, 2007.
3. **Allison A. Maini**, Intermediate School 5/6th Grade Center; 6th Grade Language Arts and Social Studies Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively May 25, 2007 until the beginning of the 2007/2008 school year.
4. **Raymond Kodish**, High School; Social Studies Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 26, 2007.
5. **Charlene Krause**, High School, 9th Grade Center, Secretary, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective February 5, 2007.
6. **MaryJane McAnallen**, Oaks Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 20, 2007.

7. **Edward R. Nugent**, District; Maintenance, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective February 9, 2007.

New Leaves of Absence:

8. **Deanna M. Bickta**, Limerick Elementary School; Reading Specialist, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Professional Agreement, effective tentatively June 1, 2007 until the beginning of the 2007/2008 school year.
9. **Susan M. Mehan**, District Office; Administrative Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 22, 2007.

C. Long Term Substitute:

1. **Cara Giese**, Upper Providence, Oaks & Spring City Elementary Schools; Math Support Teacher, to continue as a Long Term Substitute, effective February 14, 2007 for the remainder of the 2006/2007 school year. Compensation will be set at \$38,000, BS, Step 1 with benefits.

D. Support Staff Employees:

1. **Joseph Doherty**, District; Head Custodian, compensation will be set at \$17.21 per hour with benefits as per the Custodial plan, effective April 2, 2007. Mr. Doherty is currently a custodian with the District.
2. **Michael Heimbach**, District; Custodian, compensation will be set at \$14.46 per hour with benefits as per the custodial plan, effective April 2, 2007. Mr. Heimbach is currently a per diem substitute with the District.
3. **Tina Natalie**, District; Custodian, compensation will be set at \$14.46 per hour with benefits as per the custodial plan, effective April 2, 2007. Ms. Natalie is currently a per diem substitute with the District.
4. **Lorraine Ozcypok**, High School; Secretary, compensation will be set at \$12.25 per hour with benefits as per the secretarial plan, effective March 27, 2007. Ms. Ozcypok is currently a per diem substitute with the District.

E. Extra-Curricular Contracts: High School

1. **Elaine Ruppert**, Asst. Girls' Lacrosse Coach, \$2,786, Code F
2. **Deanna Williams**, Head Cheerleading Coach for Football, \$2,385, Code G

F. Extra-Curricular Contracts: Middle School

1. **Joan Staples**, Asst. Lacrosse Coach (Developmental Squad), \$1930 Code H
2. **Kory Parsia**, Tennis Intramurals, \$350, Code LC

G. Professional Staff Substitutes:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Brett Diamond | Elementary Education |
| 2. Emily Kehl | Elementary Education |
| 3. Bradley Reigner | Music |
| 4. Andrea Stevens | Elementary Education |
| 5. Anthony Stevenson | Health & Physical Education |
| 6. Cheryl Sypher | Spanish |

New Professional Staff Substitutes:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 7. Elisabeth Knise | Health and Physical Education |
| 8. James Swiggard, Jr. | Health and Physical Education |

H. Support Staff Substitutes:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1. John Deitrick | Custodian |
| 2. Kim DelRomano | Support |
| 3. Margaret Maher | Support |
| 4. Susan Sparhawk | Support |
| 5. Katie Uhas | Support |
| 6. Karen Webb | School Nurse |

VI. FINANCE

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

Mr. Grispon asked that Item D3 be separated. Mr. Rocchio made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **MARCH**, in connection with the **SERIES G.O.B. 2004:**

1. EVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Barber's Septic Serv.	Pump out lift tank	\$	650.00
Boyertown Supply Inc	Sump Pump System & Supplies	\$	2,210.01
Bursich Associates	Professional Services	\$	948.03
Robert E Little Inc.	Walkbehind Snow Blower	\$	2,194.00
MBR Construction	Applic. #14-Electrical Contractor	\$	58,861.00
Officenter Inc.	16" Student Chairs (138)	\$	2,740.00
PA American Water	Water Service	\$	485.66
PECO	Electric Service	\$	5,163.19
Jay R. Reynolds Inc.	Applic. #14-Plumbing Contractor	\$	10,962.19
Jay R. Reynolds Inc.	Applic. #15-Plumbing Contractor	\$	11,726.18
SMJ Contracting Inc.	Applic. #16-General Contractor	\$	334,267.95
SMJ Contracting Inc.	Applic. #17-General Contractor	\$	413,477.05
Spring-Ford A.S.D.	July-Dec. Salary/Benefits	\$	21,878.91
Spring-Ford A.S.D.	January 07 Salary/Benefits	\$	3,354.66
Spring-Ford A.S.D.	February 07 Salary/Benefits	\$	3,354.66
U.P.S. Store	(166) 18 x 24 Drawings	\$	332.00
Worth & Company	Applic. #14- HVAC Contractor	\$	187,199.45
*ABJ Sprinkler Co.	Applic. #4- Fire Protection	\$	8,640.00
*Chem-Aqua	Chemical Tanks for systems	\$	912.79

*DLR Group	Professional Services	\$	4,239.56
*Limerick Twp M.A.	Professional Services	\$	107.60
*MBR Construction	Applic. #15-Electrical Contractor	\$	46,456.00
*PECO	Electricity (2 Invoices)	\$	343.32
*PECO	Electric Service	\$	6,597.52
*Spring-Ford A.S.D.	March 07 Salary/Benefits	\$	3,354.66
*U.P.S. Store	(22) 30 x 42 Drawing Copies	\$	115.50
*Worth & Company	Applic. #15- HVAC Contractor	\$	214,964.15
	TOTAL		\$1,345,536.04

2. **BROOKE ELEMENTARY**

Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services	\$	320.00
*Worth & Company	Applic. #9- HVAC Contractor	\$	4,940.00
	TOTAL	\$	5,260.00

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 (2 Inv.)	\$	1,080.60
	TOTAL	\$	1,080.60

2. Greenstein Property Repairs

Peter Lumber Co.	Misc. Supplies	\$	71.07
	TOTAL	\$	71.07

3. New District Office

Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$	144.00
McMahon Engineers	Traffic Study	\$	1,355.00
Print Copy Solutions	(47) Engineering Copies	\$	846.00
*U.P.S. Store	(8) 30 x42 Drawing Copies	\$	42.00
	TOTAL	\$	2,387.00

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.

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items D1, 2, 4 and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

D. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

<u>February</u>		
Check No. 115182 - 115321	\$	750,410.52
<u>January</u>		
Check No. 115322 – 115427	\$	569,280.50

2. Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting

Check No. 115428 - 115545 \$ 428,058.76

Mr. Rocchio made a motion to approve Item D3 and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Grispon abstaining under Section 1111 of the School Code in conjunction of 3J of the Ethics Code.

- 3. Board Checks held for approval
Check No. 115546 - 115720 \$ 175,242.86
- 4. Athletic Fund
February
Check No. 299079 - 299105 \$ 23,494.34

Mr. Rocchio made a motion to approve Items E-M and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

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

- 1. **Lovaas Institute – Cherry Hill, NJ.** Provide Discrete Trial Training in the home for a special needs student as per the IEP. Direct intervention services will be provided for two hundred thirty (230) hours at a rate of fifty-three dollars (\$53.00) per hour not to exceed twelve thousand one hundred ninety dollars (\$12,190.00). In addition, there will be a cost of six hundred fifty dollars (\$650.00) per month for four (4) hours per month for six (6) months of therapist supervision not to exceed three thousand nine hundred dollars (\$3,900.00). Funding for this contract will be paid from the 2006-2007 Special Education Budget and the total contract shall not exceed sixteen thousand ninety dollars (\$16,090.00).
- 2. **Mike Strata – Bushkill, PA.** Provide an assembly entitled “Dino Dig” at Limerick Elementary School. Funding will be paid through the 2006-2007 Limerick Elementary Professional Education Services Account and shall not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
- 3. **Franklin Institute – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide three assemblies entitled “Motion and Machines” at Oaks Elementary School. Funding will be paid through the 2006-2007 Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association and shall not exceed seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00).
- 4. **Charlie Aeschliman – Zelenople, PA.** Provide two presentations, one at Oaks Elementary and one at Spring City Elementary entitled “Character Education – Pro Social”. Funding will be paid through the 2006-2007 Oaks Elementary and Spring City Elementary Parent Teacher Associations and shall not exceed six hundred dollars (\$600.00) per performance or a total contract of twelve hundred dollars (\$1,200.00).
- 5. **Kelley Anne Gittis – Exton, PA.** Provide discussion and interaction on Paleontology for the second grade classes at Brooke Elementary.

Funding will be paid through the 2006-2007 Brooke Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed three hundred dollars (\$300.00).

6. **Marion Blumenthal Lazan – Hewlett, NY.** Provide a presentation with a question and answer session on the author's book entitled "Four Perfect Pebbles" at the 7th Grade Center. Funding will be paid through 2006-2007 7th Grade Center Professional Education Services Account and shall not exceed six hundred fifty dollars (\$650.00).
7. **Ken-Crest Services – Plymouth Meeting, PA.** Provide transition and pre-employment services for a special education student per the IEP. Services will be provided for twenty (20) days at sixty-one dollars and twenty cents (\$61.20) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2006-2007 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed one thousand two hundred twenty-four dollars (\$1,224.00).

New Independent Contract

8. **Caron Treatment Centers Student Assistance Program – Wernersville, PA.** Provide a full-day follow-up training program on Critical Incident Stress Management. Funding for this contract will be paid from the 2006-2007 Staff Development Budget and shall not exceed six hundred fifty-six dollars (\$656.00).
- F. The Board approved **Resolution #2007-11** for Security Benefit Group to act as the Administrator of the Plan in providing administrative services to eligible employees (Board Approved Early Retirement Incentive Plan) regarding employer contribution to a Healthcare Reimbursement Account (HRH).
 - G. The Board approved **Resolution #2007-12** for the establishment of the Tax Installment Plan for payment of Real Estate Taxes (approved homestead/farmstead) effective July 1, 2007 as required by Act 1 of 2006.
 - H. The Board approved extending the contract with Maillie, Falconiero & Company, LLP, the District's Independent Auditing Firm, for another 2 years. Since the growth of the district records and number of funds are increasing each year their fee would increase by \$500.00 for each additional year, 1st Year - \$16,000.00 and 2nd Year - \$16,500.00. The fee would remain the same for the Educational Foundation \$500.00 and for each Plan Con J review the fee will remain the same \$1,250.00.
 - I. The Board approved seeking bids for "**Publications**" (Newsletters - 4 issues, District Activity Calendars, Student Handbooks, Crisis Prevention/Intervention/Postvention Plan Flip Chart, Post-Secondary Guidance Handbooks and Premier Elementary Discover Agendas) for the 2007/2008 school year.

VII. PROPERTY

Mr. Masciandaro asked that Item D be separated. Mr. Morgan made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Rocchio seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved Recreational Resource (state contract) to install the kindergarten playground area at Evans Elementary School. Funding will be paid from the Evans Elementary School Construction Project and shall not exceed \$14,500.00.
- B. The Board approved Recreational Resource (state contract) to install the first through fourth grade playground area at Evans Elementary School. Funding will be paid from the Evans Elementary School Construction Project and shall not exceed \$30,000.00.
- C. The Board approved Trozour Trane to replace the compressor at the High School. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed \$22,000.00. This will be completed as a service contract.

Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Item D and Mr. Rocchio seconded it.

Mr. Masciandaro asked about Item D wondering where we are in terms of the total cost and Mr. Cooper said the total which includes the architectural fees is \$65,074.32. Mr. Masciandaro questioned whether just replacing the existing scoreboard was ever looked into or did we just decide to go down this path. Mr. Morgan said he does not believe just replacing exactly what had been looked into as the thought was to look into something that would meet our future needs. This scoreboard has the additional LED colors that in the future if we wanted to have the color options added this model would handle that. Mr. Masciandaro said he appreciates that but feels this is more a matter of procedure. Mr. Masciandaro commented that when he is on a Committee and the Board asks them to look into something, bringing other options are fine, but when something is discussed at the Board level and said what would it cost to replace just the existing sign then he would expect to get an estimate that has exactly what the Board has asked for. Mr. Masciandaro said he is disappointed that he does not have this, he said it is okay that we go further than that, but we still do not have what just the replacement would be. Mr. Cooper said the price was for a sign exactly like the one we have that only shows football and no other sports. This sign had a cost somewhere in the \$20,000.00 range and to upgrade it with steel and new wiring the amount went up to \$50,000.00 so this amount was placed in budget. Mr. Cooper said there was then discussion on relocating the sign so the original cost was always there from about a year and a half ago and this amount was moved to Capital Reserve. Mr. Masciandaro said he does not ever remember this coming back to the Board. Mrs. Williams said she believes both Mr. Cooper's office and the Property Committee did feed back to the Board with reports on the incremental costs of this and there have been several discussions regarding this. Mr. Grispon said he believes everything stopped when we went to the mandate waiver as we wanted to see what that would be. Mr. Pettit commented that he is troubled with the expenditure of \$65,000.00 for a scoreboard and he does not feel that the Board ever truly received a definitive statement on what it would cost to repair and replace the existing board. Mr. Pettit said he is opposing this as he feels it is an additional expenditure for more

bells and whistles. Mr. Ciresi asked about Mrs. Kotch and her meeting with the people in Pottstown regarding the discussion of some partnership ideas and he asked Dr. Hurda if there was an update that could be given on this. Mr. Ciresi said he would like to know what we could possibly sell as far as advertising space as this scoreboard will have at least one place for advertisement. Dr. Hurda said Dr. Donahue and Mrs. Kotch did go out and met with John Armato from Pottstown and they had an extensive meeting today and they will be meeting with her tomorrow to discuss a plan that can be presented to the Board. Dr. Hurda commented that she would like to first go to the Community Relations Committee to talk about the plan and then present it to the Board next month. Dr. Hurda said she feels there will be a wonderful opportunity for some type of permanent advertising which will help offset the cost. Mrs. Williams said she believes this is the second year that the Board has put off repairing the scoreboard and she believes there are concerns regarding the safety of it. Mrs. Williams said it will not incur any additional tax increase as it is from the residue of the 9th Grade bond fund, the money is there, they are not spending taxpayers money in a frivolous manner, a mandate waiver has been applied for and was granted. Mrs. Williams said they are looking at the issue of health, care, and safety for the children and she feels that they have exhausted every which way to minimize impact to the taxpayers. Mr. Masciandaro asked how this is a safety issue for the children, are we worried about the sign falling on somebody and Mrs. Williams said the sign has been up longer than its natural life so she would consider it to be a safety issue. Mr. Grispon said the electrician for the district said it could go at any time and when electrical stuff goes then things can happen. Mr. Masciandaro said if there is anything that is a safety issue then we should be handling it, Mr. Grispon said the sign is not turned on right now so it is not a safety issue until it is turned on.

The motion passed 5-2 with Mr. Masciandaro and Mr. Pettit voting no.

- D. The Board approved moving forward with the purchase and installation of the scoreboard at Coach McNelly Stadium as per the approved Mandate Waiver. Funding will be paid from the 9th Grade Center Bond Fund and shall not exceed \$75,000.00.

Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Items E-J and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- E. The Board approved awarding the following contracts for the installation of the new storage/pole barn at the Gottshall Site to the following lowest bidders and reject all other bids:

Contract #1 Masonry: G. Britcher Masonry Inc. \$16,975.00

Alternate No. 1 \$3,890.00

Contract #2 Carpentry: John DiBattista Building Contractor
\$44,720.00

Total Combined Bids: \$62,084.00

Funding will come from the Insurance Reimbursement that the District received as a result of the fire on that property.

- F. The Board approved Baldwin Mechanical Services, an authorized mechanical representative, to handle warranty work for the Dunham - Bush chiller presently at Limerick Elementary School. A compressor, still under warranty, needs to be replaced. Although the compressor parts are still under warranty, the labor portion of the warranty has been exhausted. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed \$10,000.00. This will be completed as a service contract.
- G. The Board approved entering into a service contract with Moyer and Sons for fertilization, weed control and grub application for the district wide fields. Once approved, the application will be scheduled for May 19 & 20, 2007. Integrated Pest Management guidelines will be followed. Funding will be paid from the General Fund Maintenance Budget and shall not exceed \$9,840.00.
- H. The Board approved extending the award for the Gym Floor Refinishing bid with Wood Floor Services Inc. for 2007-2008. The original bid was awarded effective May 3, 2006 and provided the District with the option to extend the bid for two additional years.
- I. The Board approved seeking bids for Filters to be used throughout the District to maintain indoor air quality.
- J. The Board approved seeking bids, based upon a square footage price, to remove and repair paving district wide on an as needed basis.

VIII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-N and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Rocchio commented that having served on the Curriculum Committee it makes him proud to see all the things we do for the students during the summer time. He encouraged parents to get the children involved in the summer programs. Mr. Rocchio said his hat is off to Administration for continuing to make the summer a productive time for those children who choose and are able to participate in those events. Mr. Masciandaro said there is a number showing the amount of money being spent on new textbooks and he feels this is money well spent and he feels we need to invest more in curriculum. Mr. Grispon commented that a lot of the summer programs offered are at no cost to the district as they are funded by the parents of the students attending the programs, we just provide the opportunity.

The motion passed 7-0.

- A. 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 summer school program, from Monday, June 25 through Friday, July 27, 2007 (no classes Wednesday, July 4, 2007). Weekly lessons would be offered to students on a tuition basis, and there would 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/hour.

- B. The Board approved the Summer Strings Program to be held at the Intermediate 5/6 Center for grades 4-8. The program would run for 5 weeks, in conjunction with the district summer school program, from Monday, June 25 through Friday, July 27, 2007 (no classes Wednesday, July 4, 2007). Weekly lessons would be offered to students on a tuition basis, and there would 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/hour.
- C. The Board approved the 2007 Summer School Program at Spring-Ford High School for students in grades 9-12. It is anticipated that there will be a need for five (5) academic teachers. The dates for this year's program will be Monday, June 25 - Friday, July 27, 2007. There will be no classes on Wednesday, July 4, 2007. Staff rate this year is \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. Tuition rates will be \$225.00 per one credit for resident students (\$450.00 for two credits) and \$500.00 per one credit for non-resident students (\$1000.00 for two credits). Summer school is fully funded by tuition payments.
- D. The Board approved the 2007 Summer School Program at the Middle School 7th Grade Center for students in grades 7-8. The dates for this year's program will be Monday, June 25 – Friday, July 27, 2007. There will be no classes on Wednesday, July 4, 2007. Staff rate this year is \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. Tuition rates will be \$225.00 per one credit for resident students (\$450.00 for two credits) and \$500.00 per one credit for non-resident students (\$1000.00 for two credits). Summer school is fully funded by tuition payments.
- E. The Board approved the operation of a Summer Library Program to be held at the Upper Providence Elementary School. This program would be open to all district students. The library would run for six weeks. Tentative dates are June 25 through August 3, 2007 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The library program will operate from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (4 hours/day x 12 days = 48 hours). Cost to operate program shall not exceed six hundred fifty-two dollars and eighty cents (\$652.80).
- F. The Board approved 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 2007. The dates for the program will be Monday, June 25 through Friday, July 27, 2007. 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. Kenneth P. Donahue, Assistant Superintendent, by May 1, 2007. 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.

- G. The Board approved 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 2007. The dates for the program will be Monday, June 25 through Friday, July 27, 2007. 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. Kenneth P. Donahue, Assistant Superintendent, by May 1, 2007. 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.
- H. The Board approved the Intermediate Summer School Program to be offered at the Intermediate 5/6 Center. The focus will be on a developmental and remedial math program for students who have completed fourth and fifth grade as of June 2007. The dates for the program will be Monday, June 25 through Friday, July 27, 2007. 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. Kenneth P. Donahue, Assistant Superintendent, by May 1, 2007. 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.
- I. The Board approved the Intermediate Summer School Program to be offered at the Intermediate 5/6 Center. The focus will be on a developmental and remedial reading program for students who have completed fourth and fifth grade as of June 2007. The dates for the program will be Monday, June 25 through Friday, July 27, 2007. 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. Kenneth P. Donahue, Assistant Superintendent, by May 1, 2007. 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.

- J. The Board approved the Fast ForWord 2007 Summer Program to be held at the Intermediate 5/6 Center from Monday, June 25 through Friday, July 27, 2007. The cost to the student will be \$140.00. Teacher salary will be calculated at the present rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. 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 five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars.
- K. The Board approved Camp Invention. Camp Invention is a hands-on, creativity and science summer camp for elementary students that will run from 6/25/07 – 6/29/07. This camp will be held at Brooke Elementary School. These programs will be run at no cost to the district.
- L. The Board approved the Spring-Ford Area School District speech therapist to conduct pre-tests for approximately twenty-five (25) students as required by the Fast ForWord Summer Program. The therapist will be paid at the contractual rate of thirty dollars (\$30.00) per hour, not to exceed seven hundred fifty (\$750.00) dollars. Funding is from the 2006-2007 IDEA Allocation.
- M. The Board approved the state mandated Technology Plan Amendment for the Spring-Ford Area School District. The original 2003-2005 plan must be amended annually due to the requirements of District eligibility for future state and federal technology funding. The existing plan was amended in February 2006 for the current school year and must be extended through amendment again this year. The amendment is due to be submitted to Harrisburg this month. The entire plan will be rewritten next year. Approval of the plan as amended does not imply approval of individual initiatives. (attached)
- N. The Board approved the following **new textbooks** as part of the curriculum cycle adoption for 2007-2008.

	<u>Textbook</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1.	Business Education / Advanced Computer Applications <i>Microsoft Office 2007 Advanced Concepts & Techniques</i>	Thomson Course Technology (2007)	\$ 2,497.00

2.	Business Education / Accounting One <i>Accounting MultiColumn Journal 8th Edition</i> Thomson South-Western (2006)	\$ 1,980.00
3.	Business Education / Accounting One <i>Accounting Multicolumn Student Edition Working Papers</i> Thomson South-Western (2006)	\$ 715.00
4.	Business Education / Personal Finance <i>Career Exploration Inventory</i> JIST Publishing (2005)	\$ 165.00
5.	Computer Technology / ALICE <i>Learning to Program with ALICE</i> Pearson Prentice Hall (2006)	\$ 1,980.00
6.	Computer Technology / Intro to Microsoft Office <i>MS Office 2007 Essential Concepts & Techniques</i> Thomson South-Western (2007)	\$ 2,442.00
7.	Computer Technology / Computer Applications <i>MS Office 2007 Introductory Concepts & Techniques</i> Thomson South-Western (2007)	\$ 3,506.00
8.	Computer Technology / Desktop Publishing <i>MS Office Publisher 2007</i> Thomson South-Western (2007)	\$ 946.00
9.	Gifted Education <i>Principals of Animal Behavior</i> W.W. Norton & Co., Inc. (2004)	\$ 1,975.00
10.	Health – Grade 11 <i>Glencoe Health</i> Glencoe McGraw-Hill (2007)	\$ 8,527.00
11.	Health – Grade 8 <i>Teen Health Course 3</i> Glencoe McGraw-Hill (2007)	\$ 11,845.00
12.	Health – Grade 7 <i>Teen Health Course 2</i> Glencoe McGraw-Hill (2007)	\$ 9,975.00
13.	Mathematics / Probability & Statistics – Trk. 1 <i>The Basic Practice of Statistics Fourth Edition</i>	\$ 6,776.00

million by earmarking those new dollars for creating or expanding full-day kindergarten (\$25 million) and prekindergarten (\$75 million) programs. The proposal means that school districts that have utilized ABG funding to create one of the other 11 eligible programs – such as increased professional development, literacy coaching, tutoring or approved district-specific programs – will not get additional dollars to help maintain or expand those programs.

The Senate Education Committee approved SB 207, as amended by the committee, requires school districts to establish a policy to require that at least one school employee trained and certified in child cardiopulmonary resuscitation is present during the time meals are served in school cafeterias. A school employee who administers CPR to a student would be immune from civil liability.

On **Wednesday, March 28**, the House Education Committee will conduct a hearing on regulations proposed by the State Board of Education known as Chapter 49-2 that revises the scope of the teaching certificates and also contains an emphasis to revise teacher-preparation programs and clinical activities to include training and experience for new teachers to meet the needs of students with disabilities and English language learners. In addition, it requires all current professional employees, including superintendents and administrators, to participate in continuing professional education related to these groups of students. Other provisions of the proposal change the scope of instructional certificates and require dual certification for special education teachers. A new elementary/middle-level certificate is created, and the current special education certificate is split into three separate certificates.

Mr. Grispon asked Dr. Hurda to explain how this would affect our District with regards to placing teachers in specific positions. Dr. Hurda said it will have a dramatic effect on us because right now a special education teacher is certified K-12 so we are able to transfer teachers as we need them. Dr. Hurda said as our population grows at the secondary level we will see some of elementary special education teachers having to move up with the students so this will really cause a difficult effect on us. Special education teachers are one of the hardest groups for a district to employ and to limit their ability to work with certain levels such as K-4, 5-8, and 9-12 will make it even tougher.

X. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

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

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

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **John S. Grispon, and Donna L. Williams**, Board Members, to attend "*PSBA Seminar – Unlocking the Solutions to Ethical Dilemmas*" at the Crowne Plaza in King of Prussia, PA on Wednesday, April 11, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$238.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- B. **Dr. Marsha R. Hurda**, Superintendent, to attend "*PSBA Seminar on Spring Legal Roundup*" at the Crowne Plaza in King of Prussia, PA on Tuesday, March 27, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$139.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- C. **Dr. Marsha R. Hurda**, Superintendent, to attend "*2007 Superintendents' Professional Development Conference*" in Rehoboth, Delaware from Thursday, April 26 through Saturday, April 28, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$592.40 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- D. **Gary Rhodenbaugh**, Head Football Coach/Teacher, to attend "*Penn State Football Annual Coaches Clinic*" at the Penn State University Multi-Sport Facility on Friday, April 13 and Saturday April 14, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$919.58 - \$794.58 from the 2006-2007 Athletic Budget and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- E. **Diana Ward and Margaret A. Wright**, Teachers, to attend "*Focus on the Future (PAFCS Annual Meeting)*" in Cranberry Township, PA on Friday, April 13, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$1275.00 - \$1025.00 from the 580 account and \$250.00 from the substitute account.
- F. **Heather Steinmetz**, Guidance Counselor, to attend "*Raising Student Achievement Without Raising the Roof*" in Valley Forge, PA on Thursday, March 29, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$239.00 - \$114.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- G. **John Feldmann**, Teacher, to attend "*Building Partnerships to Improve Employment Outcomes of Youth with Disabilities*" in King of Prussia, PA on Thursday, March 22, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$154.55 - \$29.55 from the 2006-2007 Special Education Budget and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

9TH GRADE CENTER

- H. **Scott Segaline**, Teacher, to attend "*Secondary SAP Training*" in Doylestown, PA from Tuesday, August 7 through Thursday, August 9, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$504.00 from the 2006-2007 Safe and Drug Free Schools Grant. No substitute is needed.

7TH GRADE CENTER

- I. **Deanne Snelling**, Gifted Support Teacher, to attend "*PAGE Presents Growing Up Gifted*" at the Marriott in Pittsburgh, PA from Wednesday, April 18 through Friday, April 20, 2007. The total cost of the conference is \$862.80 - \$612.80 from the 580 account and \$250.00 from the substitute account.

5/6TH GRADE CENTER

- J. **Yvonne Kirby**, Librarian, to attend "*Follett Library Resources Spring Workshop*" in King of Prussia, PA on Wednesday, May 2, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$135.00 - \$10.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

LIMERICK

- K. **Lellus Blazic** and **Tracy Peppiatt**, Speech Therapists, to attend "*An Insider's Perspective on Autism & Asperger's Syndrome*" in Valley Forge, PA on Thursday, April 26, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$564.00 - \$314.00 from the 2006-2007 Special Education Budget and \$250.00 from the substitute account.

OAKS/ROYERSFORD

- L. **Francine Caputo**, **Jessica Hobbs**, and **Reesa Wurtz**, School Psychologists, to attend "*Legal Issues Regarding Psychoeducational Assessments, Evaluation Reports and Due Process Hearings*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Wednesday, April 18, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$314.38 from the 2006-2007 Psychologist's Budget. No substitutes are needed.
- M. **Mary Mundy**, Music Teacher, to attend "*Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Conference*" at the Hershey Lodge & Convention Center in Hershey, PA on Thursday, April 19 and Friday, April 20, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$345.00 - \$95.00 from the 580 account and \$250.00 from the substitute account.

UPPER PROVIDENCE

- N. **Dr. Melissa Patschke**, Principal, to attend "*PAESSP Liaison Committee*" in Camp Hill, PA on Friday, April 20, 2007. There is no cost for this conference. No substitute is needed.
- O. **John C. Slichter**, Teacher, to attend "*Motivating Unmotivated Students*" at the Hilton Valley Forge in Philadelphia, PA on Wednesday, April 25, 2007. The total cost of this conference \$334.00 - \$209.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

DISTRICT-WIDE

- P. **Johnna Weller**, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, **Mary Pat Long** and **Tricia J. Weller**, Math Support Teachers, to attend *“Writing Mathematics Assessment Items”* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Thursday, May 10, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$333.00 - \$83.00 from the 580 account and \$250.00 from the substitute account.
- Q. **Patricia Musselman**, **David Parker**, **Louise Plush**, and **Tina Weigner**, Teachers, to attend *“Using Data to Determine Instructional Interventions for Written Language”* at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Friday, April 20, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$393.69 - \$18.69 from the 580 from the 2006-2007 Special Education Budget and \$375.00 from the substitute account.
- R. **Deanna Bickta**, **Marylu Onorato**, **Kathryn Pogwist**, **John Raber**, **Janine Schwartz** and **Carol Vogt**, Reading Specialists, to attend *“The Wilson Reading System Foundations Workshop”* in King of Prussia, PA on Tuesday, March 27, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$736.54 from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.
- S. **Ed Yergey**, Grounds/Maintenance, to attend *“Back to Basics – Tree & Shrub Transplanting, Planting, Site Preparation”* at the Chester County Government Services Building in West Chester, PA on Wednesday, March 14, 2007. The total cost of this training is \$55.00 from the 580 account.
- T. **Julie Deutermann**, Home and School Visitor, to attend *“Issues Impacting Pupil Services”* in Lancaster, PA on Monday, April 23 and Tuesday, April 24, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$313.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- U. **Julie Deutermann**, Home and School Visitor, to attend *“Enabling Non-Violent Choices for Families, Communities and Nations”* at Kutztown, University on Friday, March 30, 2007. The total cost for this conference is \$36.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

NEW CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

- V. **Dr. Kenneth P. Donahue**, Assistant Superintendent, to attend *“PAPSA Chapter 12 Workshop: Student Service Plans & Pupil Records Plans”* at the Best Western Inn in Towamencin, PA on Monday, April 2, 2007. The total cost for this conference is \$119.10 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- W. **Janet H. Gebhardt**, Reading and Math Support Teacher, to attend *“The Wilson Reading System Foundations Workshop”* at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Tuesday, March 27, 2007. The total cost for this conference is \$120.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

- X. **Maureen McGovern, Brandon Ruppel and Kristin Williams**, Teachers, to attend *“Steeling, Dealing and Healing: Influencing Student Behavior in the Classroom”* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Wednesday, April 18, 2007. The total cost for this conference is \$600.00 - \$225.00 from the 580 account and \$375.00 from the substitute account.
- Y. **Connie Willauer**, Gifted Support Teacher, to accompany a student at the *“PA Geographic Bee”* at Shippensburg University on Friday, March 30, 2007. The total cost for Mrs. Willauer to attend this competition is \$253.61 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Masciandaro asked for discussion on Item C. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved the revised student calendar for the 2006-2007 school year. The calendar contains 181 student days. The last student day is Wednesday, June 13, 2006. The approval is based on no more snow or emergency days occurring between the date of approval and the last student day. Should snow emergency day(s) occur, the calendar will be revised to reflect 180 or 181 student days.
- B. The Board approved for the Spring-Ford Area School District Graduation Commencement to be set for the evening of Wednesday, June 13, 2006 in Coach McNelly Stadium.

Mr. Masciandaro asked for discussion on Item C2 and the adding of the wording “including report cards” into the class rank policy. Mr. Masciandaro said he believes it was at the September Curriculum Committee meeting that this item came up as an informational item from Administration that the desire was to remove class rank from the report cards and there was a lot of support from the Administration regarding this. Mr. Masciandaro said there was a lot of information put into the Board packets by Administration on why class rank should not be on the report cards. Mr. Masciandaro said that the Curriculum Committee did report on this but it was not a recommendation from the Committee as it was thought to be an administrative procedure. Mr. Masciandaro commented that we seem to be overruling the Administration and he would like to hear from Administration at the Board meeting on whether or not we should have class rank on report cards or not. Mr. Grispon said he would like to ask a procedure question as he feels class rank should still be on the report cards as the policy as written and it should not have been taken off without going through the proper policy procedures. Mr. Grispon said since that did not happen this policy had to be created like this. Mrs. Williams recommended that the Policy Committee sit down with the Curriculum Committee and discuss this in order to come to a resolution. Mr. Rocchio reported that Mr. Nugent made some pretty good comments and beliefs on why he feels class rank should not be included on the report cards and he feels the Board should hear this and discuss it. Mr. Rocchio said he thinks the discussion needs to happen at the Board level and if there are members of the Board who feel that it should have been executed and implemented in a different manner then there should be specific

discussion about this. Dr. Hurda commented that she is willing to assume responsibility if policy was not followed but that was never the spirit nor the intention. Mr. Nugent and Dr. Donahue attended the Curriculum Committee meetings and came back and said they had presented a case for why class rank should not be on the report card each quarter so let's move forward with that. Dr. Hurda said she is very comfortable saying that after it was explained to her she it sounded reasonable. Dr. Hurda said she has no problem standing up and saying she is responsible. She feels it is important for Mr. Nugent to step forward and give his arguments and his concerns would not be validated if we do not allow this. Dr. Hurda said Mr. Nugent's concerns have always been for what is in the best interest of the children. Dr. Hurda said she would be very happy to have Mr. Nugent make a presentation at the April work session in anticipation of a discussion at the work session and board meeting. Mr. Grispon asked if we could use the student representative to survey students on their feelings on this issue and Mrs. Williams said yes. Danny Suraci said he would do his best to obtain this information from the students.

C. The following policies are submitted as a first reading:

1. Policy #005 - LOCAL BOARD PROCEDURES: Organization
2. Policy #214 - PUPILS: Class Rank
3. Policy #707.1 - PROPERTY: Community Use of School Grounds and Playgrounds

New Other Business:

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item D and Mr. Grispon seconded it.

Mr. Masciandaro said he was presently surprised to see this item come up again as it was tried before; Mrs. Williams cautioned the Board that this is just a recommendation to the state representatives that this is what we would like to see but we are essentially powerless in this.

The motion passes 7-0.

D. The Board approved **Resolution #2007-13** proposing legislative action that would authorize the Board of School Directors of each district to levy an educational impact fee on each subdivision plan and each building permit issued for the construction of new residential units within its geographic boundaries.

XII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was no report.

Dr. Hurda reported that the testing for mold was done at the current 8th Grade Center and she had a discussion with the individual who was responsible for doing the testing and he indicated that the report was being typed as they spoke. Preliminary reports show that the building is very clean and without problems. Dr. Hurda said once the report has been received she will pass it on.

XIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Julie Mullin, Upper Providence Township, said she hopes there is some discussion on the Report Card of the Schools on how as a District and a Board we respond to the report which showed barely over 50% of our students move on to a four year college. Dr. Hurda said when you look at this information you have to look at where the data came from as this is not the data we have in our high school. The other thing you must look at is that it says four year colleges and we are really selling our students short if you do not acknowledge that there is a great market for students to go to a community college first and for many of our students that is an option. Dr. Hurda said you must also look at the number of students that go on to trade and formalized apprenticeship programs. Dr. Hurda said she will certainly be glad to present something next month and since Mr. Nugent will be here he could possibly include the accurate information as part of his discussion. Dr. Hurda reported that the data suggests that they could have 97% of the students indicate today that they are going on to a four year college but the reality of it is that by the time school starts in September we've lost a significant group of students; by the end of the first year we lose 25% and 25% by the end of the second year. Dr. Hurda said you must decide what is more important, the number of students who say they are going on college or the number of students who complete college at the end of four years and that is why we have just completed a survey to ask the students who are four years out what they are doing. Mrs. Mullin said her hope was that these numbers were not accurate and how do we get this information out there. Dr. Hurda said the press is always pretty quick to want to get the information from us but it is always difficult to correct especially once it goes to press. Dr. Hurda said the way to get this information out is through a meeting like tonight, the information can be posted on the website also but we also have to look at what their definition is and is it a four year college and we do not include our kids who go onto a two year college and is this really fair. Dr. Hurda said she would provide an update next month.

Danny Suraci reported that tickets are available for "The Sound of Music" and if anyone is interested in tickets they can contact him or Ms. Nicole Gerenyi. Dr. Hurda said the presentation for the senior citizens will be held on Thursday afternoon, March 29 at 4:00. You do not have to be a senior citizen to participate; the performance is free and open to anyone in the community.

Mr. Rocchio commented that he would like to talk about the District Goals. He said there are a couple of goals that could be gotten rid of and he would like to see the Board do something with the goals. Mrs. Williams said the intention is to get to these hopefully next month.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Grispon seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED DISTRICT GOALS

1. Formulate a plan to provide a quality in-house alternative education program for students within the Spring-Ford School District.

2. Provide a quality career and technical education for students in grades 10-12 focusing on what is both educationally and economically feasible.
3. Develop a long range comprehensive secondary school facilities plan.
4. Develop and implement a transition plan for students and parents as children move through grades 4-8.
5. Track and monitor key measures for student success: graduation rates, drop out rates, scholarships, college acceptance rates and the feedback from past graduates.