

On March 27, 2006, the board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:33 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., and Joseph M. Petrowski
- Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi, John S. Grispon, and Robert A. Weber
- Presiding Officer: Donna L. Williams
- Superintendent: Dr. Marsha R. Hurda
- Business Manager: Tim Anspach
- Solicitor: Marc Davis, Esq.
- Student Rep.: Kiley Morsch

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Williams announced that the Spring-Ford High School students will perform Fame the Musical this Friday, March 31 and Saturday, April 1. The shows start at 7:30 and tickets will be sold at the door both nights, the cost is \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 students and senior citizens. There is a Superintendent/Parent Advisory Council meeting on Wednesday, April 5 at 7:00p.m. in the High School Cafeteria Annex. A "Make Time for Health" workshop will be held at 7:00p.m. at Brooke Elementary on Tuesday, April 18. This workshop will provide parents with important nutrition information, ideas for healthy meals, family exercise thoughts and ways to boost sport's performance. Spring-Ford High School will host a unique traveling exhibit called "Future Lab" on Thursday, April 20 in the gym from 5-7p.m. This exhibit will be open to the public and will include pavilions on deep space, nano technology, robotics, virtual reality and life sciences.

**I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

There were no questions or comments.

**II. PRESENTATION**

Rachel Doria, from Target Stores, presented a check to the Spring-Ford School District in the amount of \$529.66. Ms. Doria explained the program and thanked the parents and students of the district for enrolling in the program. Ms. Doria explained that there were handouts explaining the program on the table for the public to take with them.

- A. Presentation of a check to the Spring-Ford Area School District by Rachel Doria, Manager, from Target Stores in Upper Providence Township. This

check represents donations made by district residents to Target's "Take Charge of Education" Program.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

- A. The administration approved the February 21, 2006 work session minutes.
- B. The administration approved the February 27, 2006 board meeting minutes.

**IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Curriculum/Technology      Ray Rocchio, Jr.      1<sup>st</sup> Tues. 7 p.m.**

Mr. Rocchio said there will be a presentation next month at the work session on the grading scale. The committee has met several times to discuss moving the grading scale from a seven point to a ten point scale. The Curriculum/Technology Committee also met and talked about budget construction in order to formalize the process in order to reduce wide fluctuations in spending from one year to the next. Mr. Rocchio said they also discussed the engineering-manufacturing technology program for the high school which is on the agenda tonight for approval. The committee also discussed the Lifelong Learning Initiatives as well as the Connect-Ed Communication System; both of these items are on the agenda for approval tonight.

**MCIU Board      John Grispon      3<sup>rd</sup> Weds. 7:30 p.m.**

Mr. Grispon said the board met on March 22 and the key issues were Early Intervention. Procedures are being worked on for the five intermediate units in the area to make the Early Intervention Program more cost effective.

**PSBA      Ray Rocchio, Jr.      TBD**

Mr. Rocchio said the Senate is in session this week and the House of Representative is on recess until Monday, April 3. The conference committee will meet and attempt to reach a compromised proposal on property tax relief. On Tuesday, April 4 the House Tourism and Recreation Development Committee will hold an informational meeting to hear the results of a survey conducted on prohibiting school districts from opening before Labor Day, teacher in-service days can be conducted prior to the holiday. Congress passed Senate Bill 2363 which renews the Education Flexibility Partnership Act. The U.S. Senate also passed an amendment to fiscal year 2007 budget resolution which provides for additional funding for education. This amendment provides seven billion for the budget for education and health care and restores the cuts to programs such as Title I and IDEA.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY      Dr. Marsha R. Hurda**

Dr. Hurda said the Community Safety Committee met on Tuesday, March 21 and the focus was on internet safety for students throughout the district. There was a presentation by one of our guidance counselors on the dangers of our students logging on to places such as myspace.com and zenga.com. The committee

recommended a letter be sent to parents throughout the district informing them of the dangers of students giving out information on these kinds of websites. The committee also recommended the implementation of the Connect-Ed Program that is on the agenda tonight.

**V. FINANCE**

Mr. Pettit asked for Item F6 to be separated, Mr. Masciandaro asked for Item I to be separated. Mr. Morgan made a motion for Items A-H with the exception of F and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

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

1. **EVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

DLR Group	Professional Services	\$	4,239.56
US Laboratories Inc.	Soils Inspection	\$	4,506.50
*Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services	\$	150.00
*Foreman Architects	Professional Services	\$	240.00
*Limerick Township	Professional Services	\$	15,000.00
*Martin Stone Quarry	Stone (71.88 Ton)	\$	842.93
*Jay R. Reynolds	Applic. #3- Plumbing Contractor	\$	84,627.81
*SMJ Contracting Inc	Applic. #5- General Contractor	\$	463,630.05
*Worth & Company	Applic. #3- Mechanical-HVAC	\$	59,940.00
	TOTAL	\$	633,176.85

2. **INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT**

Nave Newell	Professional Services	\$	7,740.00
Spring-Ford A.S.D.	Reimburse General Fund	\$	4,596.66
Zap Digital, Inc.	Scanning Prints (123)	\$	269.37
*Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (3 Inv.)	\$	10,841.56
	TOTAL	\$	23,447.59

3. **9th GRADE CENTER**

Berkshire System	Service/Clocks & Bells	\$	613.93
Hutts Glass Co., Inc.	8 Pcs Glass (Display Cases)	\$	502.00
Kraus Com. Roofing	Install (1) 4' Drain	\$	900.00
A.G. Mauro Co.	Misc. Hardware (Doors)	\$	400.00
*Demco	Library Shelving (6 Units)	\$	2,400.86
*Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services	\$	46.50
	TOTAL	\$	4,863.29

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

**Sukonik/Greenstein Condemnation**

Fox Rothschild	Professional Services	\$	332.80
*Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$	609.18
	TOTAL	\$	941.98

<u>Brooke Elementary School-Re-Roofing Project</u>		
*Arthur Altemose	Professional Services	\$ 7,000.00
	TOTAL	\$ 7,000.00

<u>New District Office</u>		
Foreman Architects	Professional Services (#3)	\$ 17,220.00
	TOTAL	\$ 17,220.00

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

D. Checks:

1.	<u>Weekly Checks prior to Work Session</u>	
	<u>February</u>	
	Check No. 108740-108744	\$ 12,315.58
	<u>March</u>	
	Check No. 108745-108940	\$ 869,380.39
2.	<u>Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting</u>	
	Check No. 108941-108996	\$ 97,491.95
3.	<u>Board Checks held for approval</u>	
	Check No. 108997-109199	\$ 167,693.64
4.	<u>Scott Foresman Checks</u>	
	Check No. 109200	\$ 5,232.06
5.	<u>Athletic Fund- February</u>	
	Check No. 298047-298075	\$ 18,373.41

E. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market – February 2006
- PSDLAF – February 2006
- PSDMAX – February 2006
- Checking Account – February 2006
- PLGIT Account – February 2006
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule – February 2006
- Payroll Account – February 2006
- Tax Account – February 2006

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – February 2006
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity – February 2006
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity – February 2006
- High School Activity – February 2006
- Athletic Account – February 2006

Bond Funds

- Note of 2003 – February 2006
- Note Of 2004 – February 2006

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – February 2006
- Debt Service Fund – February 2006
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – February 2006

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – February 2006
- Cafeteria Checking Account – February 2006
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – February 2006
- Investment Account – February 2006

- F. Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Item F and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. Mr. Pettit asked about Item F6 and wondered what the Upper Providence Pro-Social Budget is and how much is in this budget. Dr. Hurda said she is not sure of the exact amount but could get the information for Mr. Pettit. Dr. Hurda said each building in the district designates part of their guidance funds for pro-social activities which support cultural awareness, anti-bullying activities, developmental guidance activities and those activities which encourage model behavior on the part of our students. The motion passed 9-0.

Administration approved the following **independent contracts**:

1. **Bill Wellington – Stanton, VA.** Two (2) assemblies about Astronomy at Oaks Elementary on February 28, 2006. Funding will be paid by the Oaks PTA and shall not exceed six hundred dollars (\$600.00).
2. **Eric Paul - Phoenixville, PA.** Presentation on “No Bullies Allowed” at Spring City Elementary on April 27, 2006. Funding will be paid from the Elementary Guidance 2005-2006 Budget and shall not exceed three hundred ninety-five dollars (\$395.00).
3. **John Flynn – Prospect Park, PA.** Presentation by an American folk singer and songwriter at Oaks Elementary on March 7, 2006. Funding will be paid by the Oaks PTA and shall not exceed five hundred fifty dollars (\$550.00).
4. **Great Valley Nature Center - Devault, PA.** Two (2) thirty-five (35) minute presentations for kindergarten students entitled “Fur, Feathers and Fins” at Royersford Elementary on March 30, 2006. Funding will be paid by the Royersford PTO and shall not exceed one hundred fifty-one dollars and sixty cents (\$151.60).
5. **Kelly Ann Gittis, Exton, PA.** Presentation for second grade students on Paleontology at Brooke Elementary on April 19, 2006. Funding will be paid by the Brooke Home and School Association and shall not exceed three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00).

6. **Maria Boyer of PhilStar Entertainment – Stowe, PA.** Presentation of three (3) one (1) hour Hispanic/Latin programs at Upper Providence Elementary on May 26, 2006. Funding will be paid from the 2005-2006 Upper Providence Pro-Social Budget and shall not exceed one thousand eight hundred dollars (\$1,800.00).
7. **Maria Boyer of PhilStar Entertainment – Stowe, PA.** Presentation of four (4) Asian dance programs at Upper Providence Elementary on May 12, 2006. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School and shall not exceed one thousand four hundred forty dollars (\$1,440.00).
8. **PhilStar – Stowe, PA.** Two (2) forty-five to sixty (45 to 60) minute presentations focusing on “Wild About Learning” at Brooke Elementary and Spring City Elementary on May 17, 2006. Funding will be paid from the 2005-2006 Elementary Guidance Budget and shall not exceed six hundred dollars (\$600.00).
9. **Suburban Philadelphia Arts in Education Consortium – Malvern, PA.** Presentation for ten (10) days of Artist in Residency at Brooke Elementary during the month of April. An evening assembly for the parents is also included in the contract. Funding will be paid through the 2005-2006 Artist in Residence Budget and shall not exceed one thousand five hundred fifty dollars (\$1,550.00).
10. **Jack Bracale, DMD, Royersford, PA.** Perform state mandated dental screenings of students in grades 3 and 7. Cost will be four dollars (\$4.00) per screening. Funding will be provided from the 2005-2006 Dental Services Budget.
11. **Spring-Valley Branch of YMCA – Limerick, PA.** Provide camp experience for the purpose of socialization to a special needs student as per the IEP for Extended School Year 2006. Services will be for three (3) sessions of two (2) weeks per session at two hundred forty-five dollars (\$245.00) per session. Funding will be paid through the **2006-2007 Special Education Budget** and shall not exceed seven hundred thirty-five dollars (\$735.00).
12. **Jeremy Angelo Fanucci – Royersford, PA.** Provide piano accompaniment for the required rehearsals and performances of the High School Spring Musical, Fame, for the 2005-2006 school year. Funding will be paid from Theater Department and shall not exceed two hundred dollars (\$200.00).
13. **Therapy Source, Inc. – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Speech Therapy services from March 28, 2006 through May 30, 2006. The contract will address direct intervention with special education students, consultation, indirect services (i.e. meetings, in-service, paperwork), and school age evaluations. The contract is for twenty-five (25) hours of service per week for nine (9) weeks at the rate of

sixty-eight dollars (\$68.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2005-2006 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed fifteen thousand three hundred dollars (\$15,300.00).

14. **Cathy Grayson – Bala Cynwyd, PA.** Provide support in the school setting for special education students with Asperger's Syndrome as mandated by students' IEP. Direct Intervention services, consultation and training will be provided to school staff. The contract is for fifteen (15) hours at one hundred fifteen (\$115.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2005-2006 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed one thousand seven hundred twenty-five dollars (\$1,725.00).
15. **Andrea Rainville – Phoenixville, PA.** Provide ten (10) hours per week of in-home Applied Behavior Analysis Therapy for a special education student as mandated by students' IEP. Funding will be paid from the 2005-2006 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed three thousand two hundred dollars (\$3,200.00).

#### **NEW INDEPENDENT CONTRACT**

16. **Pennsylvania Tourette's Syndrome Association, Inc. – Gettysburg, PA.** Provide a training session on March 30, 2006 at Spring-Ford High School for staff as mandated by students' IEP. The training session will include ninety (90) minutes of training plus printed materials. Funding will be paid from the 2005-2006 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
  17. **Suburban Philadelphia Arts in Education Consortium – Malvern, PA.** Presentation for ten (10) days of Artist in Residency at Limerick Elementary from May 30 through June 2, 2006. An evening assembly for the parents is also included in the contract. Funding will be paid through the 2005-2006 Artist in Residence Budget and shall not exceed one thousand five hundred fifty dollars (\$1,550.00).
  18. **Camfel Productions – Irwindale, CA.** Presentation on "Student Responsibility" on April 3, 2006 at the 5/6 Grade Center. Funding will be paid by the Spring-Ford Intermediate Home and School League and shall not exceed five hundred ninety-five dollars (\$595.00).
- G. Administration is approved seeking bids for a "Market Forge Convection Steamer" for the Ninth Grade Center cafeteria. Funding will be from the **Ninth Grade Center Cafeteria Funds.**
- H. Administration approved a contract, pending the solicitor's review, with the NTI Group's *Ed-Connect* Parent Notification System as a means of community outreach through customized phone calls regarding student absentees, emergency communications, weather-related notifications, and promotions for school activities. System implementation would begin April 1, 2006. The cost includes a one-time setup fee of two thousand one hundred dollars (\$2,100.00) plus a fee of one dollar (\$1.00) per

student (\$7,041.00) to cover through **June 30, 2006**. The agreement specifies a fixed rate of three dollars (\$3.00) per student to be paid in each of the next three (3) school years. The number of calls at the specified cost is not limited. This expenditure supports the Technology Plan Communication and Access Goals. Funding is from the Technology Budget.

### **NEW FINANCE**

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item I and Mr. Pettit seconded it. Mr. Masciandaro wondered if it is appropriate to get two quotes for the cost of appraisals as they are usually high when appraising commercial properties or does the district have someone that they normally go with. Mr. Anspach said the concern was shared with Mark Capuccio and he felt very comfortable with this vendor as this vendor has experience with dealing with box type stores. The total amount on the agenda tonight is for a full report that hopefully will not be necessary. Mr. Petrowski asked if there is a challenge made regarding the appraisers value will all fees be covered or would there be an additional charge. Ms. Sheehan said the full amount on the agenda will cover the total report that could be used if a court hearing is needed. Mr. Anspach said the answer to Mr. Petrowski's question is if it does go to court there would be additional expenses. The motion passed 9-0.

- I. Administration approved the inspection of the Lowes Home Centers, Inc. property located in Upper Providence Township and the preparation of an appraisal report, if so directed. The cost of the full appraisal report is not to exceed three thousand two hundred dollars (\$3,200.00). This recommendation is the result of Lowes Home Center, Inc.'s challenge to their current assessment.

### **VI. PROPERTY**

Mr. Weber asked that Item C be separated. Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Items A, B and D, Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. Administration approved the revision in numerical sequence of the Change Orders for the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center which were previously approved at board meetings.
  1. There will not be a Change Order #2 - Approved 4-25-05  
Change Order #2 will become Change Order #8 (-\$8,124.24).
  2. Change Order #8 will become Change Order #9 (\$30,250.00)  
Approved 2-27-06.
  3. Change Order #9 will become Change Order #10 (\$5,050.00)  
Approved 2-27-06.
  4. Change Order #10 will become Change Order #11 (-\$71,266.00)  
Approved 2-27-06.



- B. Administration approved the awarding of the Trash and Recycling Bid to B.F.I. Waste Services of PA, King of Prussia, PA (Parent Company Allied Waste Industries, Inc.). B.F.I. was the lowest bidder in the amount of \$56,071.20 per year for district wide trash and recycling services, effective July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007. The District has the option to continue the contract for two additional years. Bids have been reviewed and approved by the solicitor.
- D. Administration approved seeking bids for Filters to maintain indoor air quality. Filters are used throughout the School District.

Mr. Rocchio made a motion to approve Item C and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. Mr. Weber asked if all gym floors were being refinished or only some. Mr. Cooper said this was for all the gym floors. Mr. Weber asked if we have a schedule when the last ones were done. Mr. Cooper said we refinish the gym floors every year and past practice has been that we did them ourselves but with the products being put down and codes it was felt that it was better to bid this out and see if the cost would be somewhere around what we were paying for the materials. Mr. Masciandaro asked if the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center was being refinished also and Mr. Cooper said yes as this is something that needs to be done every year. Mr. Cooper said the main gym would be done since it is used all the time but the auxiliary gym may not have to be done. The motion passed 9-0.

- C. Administration approved seeking bids to Refinish Gym Floors throughout the school district. Work will be done during July and August 2006.

#### **NEW PROPERTY**

Mr. Petrowski asked to separate Item E and F. Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item E and Mr. Morgan seconded it. Mr. Petrowski asked about tax implications if we renovate the Greenstein Property. Mr. Grispon said he believed the question was answered at last month's meeting and he thought the taxing authority could not force us to pay taxes. Mr. Anspach said the district already has two properties rented out and we do not pay taxes on those properties. Mr. Petrowski said this is a very large piece of land and if we have to pay taxes on this entire 120 acres, he questioned if the house would have to be subdivided off. Mr. Weber said the house is on a 12 acre parcel so the most we would have to pay is on 12 acres. Mr. Masciandaro what the latest estimate was or the rental of the property and the board answered \$1800 to \$2000. The motion passed 8-1 with Mr. Masciandaro voting no.

- E. Administration approved proceeding with repairs to the Greenstein property in order for the property to be leased. The total cost for the renovations shall not exceed forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00). Funds will come from the Capital Reserve Account.

Mrs. Williams pointed out that there was an addendum which altered the wording of Item F. Mr. Grispon said before the motion is made he thought the money was coming out of Capital Reserve. Mr. Petrowski said that is the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Mr. Petrowski said Mr. Ortiz in his presentation included it as a PlanCon A item in case we changed our mind. Dr. Hurda said PlanCon A

and B indicates that Spring-Ford would be paying cash and would not be incurring any finance costs. Mr. Masciandaro said he is concerned that the scope of this project has gotten much larger than he had anticipated. He agrees that we need a new administration building and said at the prices we are starting to talk about we could lease a property for 15 years and be right at about the same costs as this. He is concerned that the project has been expanded too much. Mr. Morgan said the second floor is an additional 3400 square feet and if we had to go back and put this in at a later time it would be difficult to support the second floor. Mr. Morgan also pointed out that this is square footage that DE does not recognize. Mr. Masciandaro said he would like to see us continue to pursue this but tighten the belt a little more. Mr. Morgan said we are looking to purchase moveable furniture and there are some companies that have leased furniture and turned it back in and we could look to purchase it at a much cheaper rate which could save us some expenses. Mr. Morgan made a motion to approve Item F and Mr. Petrowski seconded it. The motion passed 6-3 with Mr. Ciresi, Mr. Masciandaro and Mr. Pettit voting no.

- F. Administration approved Foreman Architects to move forward with Option 2 of the District Administration Office Renovation Plan. This option provides for a completed second floor which includes offices, storage and a dining/kitchen area. The estimated cost of all bids for this option, \$3,255,200, includes both an elevator and a geothermal heating and cooling system.

## VII. PERSONNEL

Mrs. Williams said the administration has asked the board to table Item A3 until we have notice from the employee on an exact departure date. Mr. Petrowski made a motion to approve Item A with the exception of Item A3 and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

Administration approved the following:

### A. Resignations:

1. **Joann Judge**, Head Lacrosse Coach, High School, effective March 8, 2006.

### New Resignations:

2. **Kristi Schellinger**, Assistant Lacrosse Coach, High School, effective March 16, 2006.
3. **Cathy Pfanders**, Instructional Assistant, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center, effective with last day worked on March 31, 2006.

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items B-H and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

**B. Leaves of Absence:**

1. **Michele Budinko**, Limerick Elementary School: Autistic Support Teacher for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 13, 2006.
2. **Matthew Jarema**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Health & Physical Education, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 8, 2006.
3. **Kathleen Mandracchia**, Limerick Elementary School: Kindergarten Teacher for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective February 27, 2006.
4. **Mark Matthews**, Upper Providence Elementary School: Special Education Teacher for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective March 13, 2006.
5. **Jaclyn M. Ritter**, High School: English Teacher for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Professional Agreement, effective tentatively May 31, 2006.

**C. Support Staff Employees:**

1. **Lois Hunsicker**, District Office; Food Service Department & Duplication Center: Clerical Assistant- compensation will be set at \$11.00 per hour with benefits as per the Secretarial Plan, effective March 28, 2006.
2. **Linda Wade-Jones**, High School: Secretary-compensation will be set at \$13.00 per hour (degree rate) with benefits as per the Secretarial Plan, effective March 28, 2006.

**D.** Administration approved the 2006 Extended School Year (ESY) Program and positions as identified below to be held at Upper Providence Elementary School, Limerick Elementary School, Royersford Elementary School, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Intermediate School, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center, and Senior High School; Summer Camp Programs at Spring City Elementary School, Spring Valley and Trappe Center YMCA, & Camp Joy in Schwenksville. The regular program dates will be from June 29, 2006 to August 7, 2006 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Specific work dates and schedules may vary depending upon the needs of each special education student. Funding for these positions will be provided through the 2006-2007 IDEA budget and will include FICA & Retirement payments. The following are estimates of positions needed, and may vary depending upon program enrollment:

1. Eighteen (18) Special Education Teachers at a rate of \$30 per hour.
2. Three (3.0) certified Speech Clinicians at a rate of \$30 per hour.

3. One (1) certified school nurse at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
4. Thirty-five (35) Instructional Assistants. The rates will vary between \$12.53 and \$13.53 per hour depending on experience.

**E. Extra-Curricular Contract: 7/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Centers**

1. **William Racich**, 7/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Head Track Coach, \$1,855, Code H

**New Extra-Curricular Contract: 7/8 Grade Centers**

2. **Melissa Toto**, Assistant Lacrosse Coach, \$1855, Code H

**F. Extra-Curricular Contracts: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center**

1. **Tara Bologa**, Intramural Spring Girls' Field Hockey Coach, \$337, Code LC
2. **Tara Bologa**, Intramural Spring Girls' Softball Coach, \$337, Code LC

**New Extra-Curricular Contracts: High School**

1. **Kristi Schellinger**, Head Girls' Lacrosse Coach, \$3967, Code D
2. **Elena Kollar**, Assistant Girls' Lacrosse Coach, \$2,679, Code F
3. **Jeffrey Rinehimer**, Assistant Boys' Tennis Coach, \$2,679, Code F
4. **Richard Loughead**, Assistant Boys'/Girls' Track Coach, \$2,679, Code F

**G. Professional Staff Substitutes:**

1. **Erik App**
2. **Eileen Dolenti**
3. **Jessica Moyer**
4. **Peter Ruckelshaus**
5. **Jennifer Tomaselli**
6. **Ryan Waltermyer**
7. **Michael Wright**

**New Professional Staff Substitute:**

8. **Kelly A. Aspinall**

**H. Support Staff Substitute:**

1. **Nathan Miller**

**New Support Staff Substitute:**

2. **Lisa McCann**

**New Personnel**

Mr. Grispon asked that all the Items be separated. Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item I and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. Mrs. Williams introduced Dr. Donohue who was in the audience and welcomed him.

- I. Administration approved a commission and the attached contract for **Dr. Kenneth Donahue**, for the position of Assistant Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Donahue's salary for the 2006-07 fiscal year will be \$125,587.00, prorated, with benefits, effective tentatively July 1, 2006 ending June 30, 2009.

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item J and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-1 with Mr. Weber voting no.

- J. Administration approved **Kathleen G. Kotch**, for the position of Public Outreach Coordinator. Compensation will be set at \$60,000.00, prorated, with benefits, effective tentatively April 24, 2006.

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item K and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 8-0 with Mrs. William abstaining according to 11.11 school code.

- K. Administration approved the Spring-Ford Area School District Secretarial Plan, effective July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2009.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item L and Mr. Petrowski seconded it. The motion passed 8-0 with Mr. Masciandaro abstaining according to 11.11 of the school code.

- L. Administration approved the Spring-Ford Area School District Food Service Employees Plan, effective July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2009.

**VIII. CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Weber made a motion to approve Items A-T and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

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

<b>CODE: 580 Account: Conference/Training, registration, food, and accommodations</b>
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**DISTRICT OFFICE**

- A. **Richard Grove**, Field Technician, to attend "*Troubleshooting Wireless Networks*" at the Exceed Education Center in West Conshohocken, PA on Thursday, May 4 and Friday, May 5, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$1139.67 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

- B. **Richard Grove**, Field Technician, to attend *"Integrating Wireless Networks"* at the Exceed Education Center in West Conshohocken, PA on from Monday, May 1 through Wednesday, May 3, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$1649.38 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- C. **Theresa Weidenbaugh, and Dr. Edward Mackel**, Principals, **Carol Frankel, and Nancy Saul**, Supervisors of Special Education, to attend *"Montgomery County Principals and Supervisors Association"* at the William Penn Inn in Sumneytown, PA on Tuesday, April 18, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$153.85 from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.
- D. **Dr. Leslie T. Morrill**, Supervisor of Staff Development, to attend *"Safe Schools Conference: Keeping our Children Safe – Strategies for Schools and Communities"* at the Hilton in Harrisburg, PA from Monday, May 1 through Wednesday, May 3, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$562.04 from the 2005-2006 Safe and Drug Free Schools Grant. No substitute is needed.
- E. **Kathleen E. Parker**, Food Service Coordinator, to attend *"PASBO Food Service Directors Professional Development Program"* in State College, PA on Tuesday, April 4 and Wednesday, April 5, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$696.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- F. **Julie Signorovitch**, Administrative Assistant, to attend *"Eastern PA Administrative Assistants Conference"* at the Radisson Valley Forge Hotel in King of Prussia, PA on Friday, May 5, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$214.12 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

#### HIGH SCHOOL

- G. **Diane Simmoneau**, Secretary, to attend *"How to Become a Better Communicator"* at the Radisson Valley Forge Hotel in King of Prussia, PA on Friday, May 19, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$174.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

#### 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CENTER

- H. **Beth Happ**, Certified School Nurse, to attend *"Disaster Preparedness: Preparing the School Nurse for All Types of Disaster"* at the Penn State Great Valley Conference Center in Malvern, PA on Saturday, April 29, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$83.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

#### 5/6 GRADE CENTER

- I. **Julie Deutermann**, Home and School Visitor, to attend *"Services for Teens at Risk: The Rewards of Reducing Risk"* at the Radisson Valley Forge in King of Prussia, PA on Thursday, March 9, 2006. The total cost

of this conference is \$60.57 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

- J. **Mary Pat Long**, Title I Math Support Teacher, to attend "*Pennsylvania Association of Federal Program Coordinator's Annual Conference*" at the Hershey Hotel and Convention Center in Hershey, PA from Sunday, April 2 through Wednesday, April 5, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$1156.13 - \$781.13 from Title I Funds and \$375.00 from the substitute account.
- K. **Jenifer Smith**, Speech Therapist, to attend "*Social Skills 911 – Help for Clients with Asperger's Syndrome and Other Social Disabilities*" in King of Prussia, PA on Thursday, April 6, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$325.00 - 200.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- L. **Jenifer Smith**, Speech Therapist, to attend "*Assistive Technology Core Team Update*" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Tuesday, April 18, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$25.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- M. **Melissa Treichler**, Teacher, to attend "*SAP Training*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit and Eagleville Hospital on Monday, March 27, Tuesday, March 28, Tuesday, April 4 and Wednesday, April 5, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$865.00 - \$365.00 from the 2005-2006 Safe and Drug Free Schools Grant and \$500.00 from the substitute account.

#### LIMERICK

- N. **Kathleen D. Gebhard**, Itinerant Autistic Support, to attend "*Asperger's Syndrome: Building Social Thinking and Social Competence Skills*" in Horsham, PA on Wednesday, April 5, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$314.00 - \$189.00 from the Special Education Budget and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

#### NEW CONFERENCES/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

- O. **John S.Grispon**, Board Member, to attend "*PSBA Region 11 Dinner Meeting*" at the Williamson Restaurant in Horsham, PA on Wednesday, May 3, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$32.00 from the 580 account.
- P. **Dr. Melissa Patschke, David Willauer, Patrick Nugent, William Shirk, Jeffrey Kollar, and Orathia Bradley**, Principals, to attend "*Montgomery County Principals and Supervisors Association Annual Recognition Dinner*" at the William Penn Inn in Sumneytown, PA on Tuesday, April 18, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$269.48 from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.

- Q. **Michael Siggins**, Assistant Principal 7/8, and **Larry Byers**, High School Guidance Counselor, to attend *"Introduction to Restorative Practices"* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Friday, April 28, 2006. There is no cost for this conference to the district.
- R. **Gary Rhodenbaugh**, Head Football Coach, to attend *"Penn State Annual Football Coaches Clinic"* in State College, PA on Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$599.00 - \$474.00 from the 2005-2006 Athletic Budget and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- S. **Nancy Saul**, Supervisor of Special Education, to attend *"Pennsylvania Special Education After Reauthorization"* in Bensalem, PA on Friday, April 28, 2006. The total cost of this conference is \$205.88 from the Special Education Budget. No substitute is needed.
- T. **Lellus Blazic**, Speech Therapist, to attend *"Assistive Technology Core Team Update"* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Tuesday, April 18, 2006. The total cost for this conference is \$10.00 from the Special Education Budget. No substitute is needed.

**IX. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM**

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

- A. Administration approved the Summer Instrumental Program, under the direction of Ms. Yvonne O'Dea, 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 26 through Friday, July 28, 2006 (no classes Tuesday, July 4, 2006). 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. This has been a very worthwhile and well-attended program during the past years and we would like to continue it this summer.
- B. Administration approved the 2006 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 26 - Friday, July 28, 2006. There will be no classes on Tuesday, July 4, 2006. 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.



- C. Administration approved the 2006 Summer School Program at the Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center for students in grades 7-8. The dates for this year's program will be Monday, June 26 – Friday, July 28, 2006. There will be no classes on Tuesday, July 4, 2006. 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. Administration approved 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 27 through August 8, 2006 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).
  
- E. Administration 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 2006. The dates for the program will be Monday, June 26 through Friday, July 28, 2006. A minimum of twelve students is necessary to operate each class and the number of students enrolled will determine the number of teachers employed. The cost this year is \$140.00 per class. Teacher salary will be calculated at the present rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. Subsequent to the approval by the Board, elementary principals will notify parents of this program. All money and applications for these courses must be completed and submitted to the attention of Dr. Marsha R. Hurda, Superintendent, by Monday, May 1, 2006. 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.
  
- F. Administration 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 2006. The dates for the program will be Monday, June 26 through Friday, July 28, 2006. A minimum of twelve students is necessary to operate each class and the number of students enrolled will determine the number of teachers employed. The cost this year is \$140.00 per class. Teacher salary will be calculated at the present rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. Subsequent to the approval by the Board, elementary principals will notify parents of this program. All money and applications for these courses must be completed and submitted to the attention of Dr. Marsha R. Hurda, Superintendent, by Monday, May 1, 2006. 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. Administration 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 2006. The dates for the program will be Monday, June 26 through Friday, July 28, 2006. A minimum of twelve students is necessary to operate each class and the number of students enrolled will determine the number of teachers employed. The cost this year is \$140.00 per class. Teacher salary will be calculated at the present rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. Subsequent to the approval by the Board, parents of fourth and fifth grade students will be notified of this program. All money and applications for these courses must be completed and submitted to the attention of Dr. Marsha R. Hurda, Superintendent, by Monday, May 1, 2006. 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.
- H. Administration approved for 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 2006. The dates for the program will be Monday, June 26 through Friday, July 28, 2006. A minimum of twelve students is necessary to operate each class and the number of students enrolled will determine the number of teachers employed. The cost this year is \$140.00 per class. Teacher salary will be calculated at the present rate of \$30.00 per hour plus benefits. Subsequent to the approval by the Board, parents of fourth and fifth grade students will be notified of this program. All money and applications for these courses must be completed and submitted to the attention of Dr. Marsha R. Hurda, Superintendent, by Monday, May 1, 2006. 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. Administration approved the Fast ForWord 2006 Summer Program to be held at the Intermediate 5/6 Center from Monday, June 26 through Friday, July 28, 2006. The cost to the student will be \$140.00. Additional days for the teachers and the instructional assistants would be needed for training and preparation before the start of the program and for completion of the reports after the program. These costs will be paid for out of the General Curriculum Budget not to exceed five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars.
- J. Administration approved Club Invention and Camp Invention. Club Invention is an after school hands-on, creativity and science camp for elementary students that runs one (1) day per week for five (5) weeks from 4/19/06 – 5/17/06. Camp Invention is a hands-on, creativity and science summer camp for elementary students that will run from 6/26/06 – 6/30/06 and again 7/10/06 – 7/14/06. These camps will be held at

Limerick Elementary School. These programs will be run at no cost to the district.

- K. Administration 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 2005-2006 IDEA Allocation.
- L. Administration approved an engineering-manufacturing technology program in the High School 10-12 Center for the 2006-2007 school year. This lab based interactive module based program is a continuation of the technology education program initiated in the 7, 8, and 9 grades during the 2004-2006 school years. The total cost for the instructional modules, system management package, and lab furniture is not to exceed three hundred fifty-four thousand six hundred eighty-one dollars. An initial payment of one hundred fifty thousand dollars will be made utilizing unexpended budgeted funds from the 2005-2006 school year. The remaining balance of two hundred four thousand six hundred eighty-one dollars will be incorporated into the 2006-2007 Curriculum and Instruction Budget. This engineering-manufacturing system will be provided by Advanced Technologies Consultants, Inc.

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items A-E and Mr. Pettit seconded it. Mr. Masciandaro commented that one thing that Spring-Ford does a lot is talk about the school calendar. He said the decision to open prior to Labor Day was a local decision and one that is right for us and he wants to voice his protest against the Pennsylvania Legislature for over legislating. Mr. Grispon said this legislative action comes from the tourism committee who receives pressure from all the industries who handle tourism and employ students. Mr. Grispon said this legislative action has been introduced for about six years in a row. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. Administration approved the revised student calendar for the 2005-2006 school year. The calendar contains 181 student days. The last student day is Thursday, June 15, 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. Administration approved the Spring-Ford Area School District Graduation Commencement to be set for the evening of Thursday, June 15, 2006 in Coach McNelly Stadium.
- C. Administration approved John S. Grispon for a seat on the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors. Mr. Grispon was previously elected to the MCIU Board to fulfill the vacancy left by Ed Cummins. A nomination is needed by the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of

Directors for the term beginning on July 1, 2006 and ending on July 1, 2009.

- D. Administration approved that student number 40506 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions outlined by the Superintendent.
- E. The following policies are submitted as a first reading:
  - 1. Policy #117 – PROGRAMS: Homebound Instruction
  - 2. Policy #215 – PUPILS: Promotion and Retention
  - 3. Policy #217 – PUPILS: Graduation Requirements

**XI. INFORMATION ITEM**

Mr. Petrowski commented that Item 2 deals with PSBA supporting legislation that would relieve districts from back end referendum requirements of Act 72 and he wanted to state that 47 states have back end referendums and he believes there should be one in Pennsylvania with some exceptions to it. He feels it is a good idea.

**A. PSBA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2006**

- 1. **E-1** The association supports legislation to increase the state contribution for special education services based on actual cost incurred and students served.
- 2. **G-5** The association supports legislation that would relieve school districts from the impact of the back-end referendum requirements of Act 72 of 2004, including efforts to expand the number and scope of exceptions.
- 3. **H-2** The association supports legislation requiring a periodic review of state-mandated programs, providing for full and continual funding of such programs and authorizing school entities to discontinue programs when funding is inadequate or terminated.

**XII. DISCUSSION ITEM**

Mrs. Williams informed the board members that the requested changes from last week's meeting had been made and appear in bold print. Mr. Pettit commented that goal number 2 talks about providing a quality career and technical education for students in grades 10-12 and he wants to again bring up that the High School of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is a more feasible alternative to the Western Center. He feels overall the benefits to be derived by our students by creating a High School of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century here in Spring-Ford would far outweigh those if we stay at the Western Center for Technical Studies. Mr. Ciresi reminded everyone that Wednesday, March 29 at 7:00p.m. there is an open meeting giving an overview of the plan from the architect. Mr. Masciandaro said he is interested in how many of our 7000+ students would desire this type of education. He said right now we only have about 110 students which is less than 2% of our students who partake in this type of education and if we should have 5% then is it because of the venue or logistics. Mr. Petrowski said 7000+ students would include

kindergarten through twelfth grade but if we use the number in high school then we are talking about 2000 students and 110 would have us hitting the 5% mark. Mr. Masciandaro said he only threw the 5% number out there, he does not know what the right number should be, but feels we should figure out what the average percentage of the student population is that should be served by this and zero in on this so we can make the goal measurable. Mr. Petrowski commented that two years ago we had 136 students attend the Western Center and last year we were down closer to 100 students so we have seen quite a substantial drop. Mr. Pettit said Mr. Petrowski has made a very good point in that our numbers are diminishing and he feels that a program of our own here would open it up to our academic students to partake at a much greater degree and our numbers would swell accordingly. Mr. Grispon asked if we were going to vote on the District Goals and Mrs. Williams said the board was going to think about them and vote on them next month.

A. 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.

**XIII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

There was no report.

**XIV. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

Gail Wellington, Limerick Township, feels that if we look at comprehensive schools and find out the percentage of their population and take into account the demographics of the community we could find the numbers that would answer Mr. Masciandaro's question. Mrs. Wellington said we need to take into consideration if there is a difference between comprehensive schools and separate technical schools. Mrs. Wellington would like to have as part of the discussion the fact that the High School of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century would offer courses as electives to students who are not in technical program. She feels that having electives gives students an opportunity to explore areas that they otherwise may not have thought about.

Mr. Ciresi said tonight we voted on two important items, one being the hiring of the Assistant Superintendent. He commended Dr. Hurda for doing double duty

along with her staff. The second item of importance was the hiring of the Public Outreach Coordinator; he feels this is a huge step for the district as the Lifelong Learning Program, sponsorship and grant writing will be a major positive for the district and this is a welcomed addition to the staff.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 8:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern