

On April 23, 2007, the board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:40 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I:	Bernard F. Pettit and Raymond J. Rocchio, Jr.
Region II:	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.:	Danny Suraci

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

I. PRESENTATION

Mrs. Williams and Dr. Hurda presented Mr. Nichol and Mr. Eckstine with Resolution #2007-14 honoring the Music Department for their outstanding accomplishments while competing at the Fiesta-Val Music Festival in Orlando, Florida.

- A. Presentation of **Resolution #2007-14** to the Spring-Ford High School Music Department commending them for their outstanding accomplishments while competing at the Fiesta-Val Music Festival in Orlando, Florida.

Mr. Nichol thanked the Board and Dr. Hurda for inviting the music department to the board meeting. The choral students then performed "Danny Boy", one of the arrangements they sang during their competition in Orlando, Florida.

Dr. Hurda commented that the highlight of any board meeting is the opportunity to acknowledge students and teachers who are doing magnificent work. Dr. Hurda said the Music Department Students put in more hours than you can possibly imagine and have been so successful this year; she acknowledged the students, Mr. Eckstine and Mr. Nichol.

Mrs. Williams said tonight we say farewell to our student representative, Danny Suraci, who joined the Board as the student representative this same time last year. Mrs. Williams commented that she has known Danny for a very long time and that he came to his first board meeting when he was six months old. Danny has brought a great level of enthusiasm to the Board and he also brings this in

general to life. Dan is an Eagle Scout who has earned 50 merit badges while only 21 were needed for Eagle status. Dan is involved with the men's' quartet which consists of two seniors, one sophomore and one junior. Dan is president of the drama club, thespian society. Dan is also involved with the vocal ensemble and the chorus. Dan will be continuing his education at Temple University, in the honors program, where less than five percent of students accepted qualify for this program. Mrs. Williams presented Dan with a gift from the Board and a plaque thanking him for his year of service as the student representative.

Danny said it has been a pleasure working with the Board and he is very excited not only for his own future but for that of the district as well. Danny said he feels that this year a door was opened for more engaged student involvement; he thanked the Board for all of their support in accomplishing this. Danny complimented Dr. Hurda for doing an absolutely phenomenal job and said he feels she has done more for the District in two years than was done previously in the last twelve years, he commended her and her staff. Danny said nothing is possible in the District without the Board and commented that in all his years he has never seen a Board that gets along so well and has had so many unanimous votes. Danny praised Mrs. Williams for the phenomenal job she has done leading the Board and said he feels together they have done a great job of getting students involved. Danny wished Mrs. Williams and the Board the best of luck for the future, saying decisions made today will influence generations to come.

Mr. Rocchio commented that Danny definitely stands out as a student representative and he acknowledged and thanked him for that. Mr. Rocchio acknowledged Danny for his enthusiasm and thanked him for his efforts and his energy.

Mrs. Williams introduced and welcomed Michael J. Masciandaro, the new student representative, and invited him to have a seat at the Board table.

- B. Farewell to the current Student Representative to the School Board, **Daniel Suraci**. Introduction of the new Student Representative to the School Board, **Michael J. Masciandaro**.

Dr. Hurda commented that at last Monday's meeting discussion took place regarding the National Guard and the House of Heroes Project. Dr. Hurda said she spent a lot of time last week talking to members of the National Guard and State Representatives and she believes we did not have a complete understanding of what occurred with the House of Heroes Project. Dr. Hurda said Colonel Cleaver was kind enough to offer to come here tonight to briefly discuss the commitment the National Guard has to the project.

Colonel Cleaver thanked Dr. Hurda for her support, understanding and cooperation. Colonel Cleaver reported that he personally was able to view the House of Heroes Project and he described it as noble. He said it is something the National Guard would love to take care of but unfortunately they do not have the capability to move the house. Colonel Cleaver said what they do have is the ability to reach out and talk to a number of organizations and people to help

assist with raising the money needed to move the house. Colonel Cleaver said this was just an unfortunate situation due to miscommunication and the overall enthusiasm on both sides to get this project done. Colonel Cleaver stressed that this is an opportunity to move forward and make it happen. Mr. Pettit said there was some miscommunication and we should put it behind us. He expressed his deep appreciation to Colonel Cleaver and all the members of the National Guard who are so valiantly serving the country. Dr. Hurda asked Colonel Cleaver to thank the Major General for her willingness to have him come to the meeting and answer questions. Dr. Hurda said that as soon as it was realized that there was a public relations issue that was growing out of control they were right there to resolve it. Dr. Hurda reported that tonight Colonel Cleaver handed her his own personal check to indicate his commitment to helping us move this project forward and this is representative of the level of support we have received from him as well as the Major General. Dr. Hurda thanked Colonel Cleaver for his willingness to come here tonight and indicate a willingness to help.

- C. Update from the Pennsylvania National Guard regarding their involvement in the Western Center for Technical Studies House of Heroes Project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Williams announced that the Board met in an executive session on a personnel issue. Mrs. Williams reminded everyone that the high school will be holding a discussion called "What it Takes to Be an Ivy League Student" at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 25 in the high school auditorium. A representative from the University of Pennsylvania will be on hand to discuss what Ivy League schools look for when admitting students. Mrs. Williams offered congratulations to Tiffany Bayly on earning and receiving the distinction of First Chair Tuba for the Pennsylvania All-State Band. The Board will be adopting a resolution commending Tiffany on this honor at the May work session and presenting it to her at the May board meeting. Mrs. Williams invited residents who are interested in learning more about the various building options as part of the District's Feasibility Study to attend the special question and answer session on Monday, April 30 at 7:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Mrs. Williams announced that there will be a Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, May 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria for residents to ask questions and discuss Act 1, the Pennsylvania Taxpayer Relief Act.

Mrs. Williams introduced a video the district prepared entitled "Act 1 101". The video was shown. Mrs. Williams announced that the video is also accessible online at www.spring-ford.net.

Mrs. Williams thanked Jessica Lester from the District's public relations firm for putting together the informative video on Act 1. Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Davis to address the fact that the referendum question on the Chester County ballot may appear differently than the one that will appear on the Montgomery County ballot. Mr. Davis said the wording on the Montgomery County ballot will read exactly as the Board proposed but we are not sure exactly how the question will appear on the Chester County ballot, the Board of Elections for Chester County will be meeting again to discuss the wording of the question.

II. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no questions or comments.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

A. The Board approved the March 19, 2007 work session minutes.

B. The Board approved the March 26, 2007 board meeting minutes.

IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Rep. Report Danny Suraci

Danny reported that the Sound of Music play was a huge success. Theater students will be attending a competition at West Chester University for one act plays. Danny reported on the high school sports teams saying baseball has a 7-2 overall record, softball has a 7-3 overall record, boys track has a 4-2 overall record, girls track 5-1 overall record with Heather Giovagnoli setting a new record in the 3200 meter run, and finally girls lacrosse has a 4-0 overall record. The Music Department has returned from their trip to Orlando, Florida. Danny congratulated Tiffany Bayly for making it to states. Danny thanked the Board for their support of the arts and for giving the same amount of attention to the arts as they do to athletics. Danny reported that the students dominated the faculty in the student-teacher volleyball game. Danny also reported that the French Club visited the Art Museum, Broadcast students attended a film festival, Reading Olympics took place on April 19 at Plymouth-Whitemarsh and we took home first place. The model United Nations will be going to the University of Pennsylvania, the Minorities Coming Together Club will be going on a mural walk in Philadelphia, the SNAP Committee has been handing out daily prizes and advertising for this year's post prom party, Marketing Students will be visiting Citizens Bank this week, 10th grade gifted students will be taking a trip to the Museum of Archeology in Philadelphia, and members of the Rampage staff will be visiting the Philadelphia Inquirer this week as well.

Mr. Ciresi commented that is the club report he has been asking for over the past three years. Mr. Ciresi said this is what he would love to see; all of these clubs come together with reports for the Extra-Curricular Committee.

Mr. Grispon asked Danny to give the class rank survey he conducted. Danny reported that he handed out the survey primarily to juniors in Mr. Salamone's Government Classes and he received fifty-three back. Danny told students that the issue of class rank on report cards has come up at the Board table and they you may have noticed that class rank has not appeared on report cards since the first marking period. Students who want to know their class rank can find out by asking their house guidance counselors. Students were told that the School Board has specifically asked for direct student feedback on this issue. Danny asked the students what they thought and if they felt it was better not to have class rank on the report card, if it mattered to them, if class rank should be back on and why? Danny said students gave suggestions such as more access to class rank by posting it on LetterGrade or post it only for juniors and seniors to

aide in the college application process, and the final suggestion was to post it at the end of the year on the final report card which is mailed home. Mrs. Williams asked Mr. Nugent for his comments. Mr. Nugent said he still feels pretty strong about his original opinion. Mr. Nugent said he did speak with Mr. Spohn and they checked with Tenex and were told an alteration would be able to be made to the final report card to add class rank. Mr. Nugent said in his sampling of students he found that for those students who use LetterGrade the report card was not that big a deal as they pretty much know what their grades are before they are mailed home. Mr. Nugent said an online posting of class rank could be an option down the road as long as there is a privacy password protection system set up. Mr. Ciresi asked if there would be a fee for this and Mr. Nugent said there is no fee. Mr. Ciresi asked if Mr. Nugent supported this concept and Mr. Nugent said he is comfortable with this as an envelope is mailed to the house and in the envelope are the student's schedule, the report card, and a letter from the SAP Team encouraging safe and non-destructive decisions throughout the summer. Mr. Weber asked if the school were to go with an online system for class rank would student security be an issue and Mr. Nugent said security is only as good as their password so if students do not give their password out no one would have access to their information. Mr. Spohn said there is an encryption for all electronics between home and school so if someone were to hack into the system the database is encrypted.

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

Mrs. Williams reported that the official grand opening of Evans Elementary will take place on September 9, 2007 and hopefully that will coincide with the visit from the mayor and the principal of an elementary school in Limerick, Ireland. Mrs. Williams said Dr. Hurda has continued attempts to gain funds for this event and just tonight she had a commitment from the Education Foundation of a donation of one thousand dollars. Mr. Ciresi said he has also received a commitment which will bring us over the top for what is needed for the airfare. Mr. Ciresi said he has spoken with the principal in Limerick, Ireland and told them we were close to having all the money necessary to bring them over here and there was talk of doing a video uplink with the students. Mrs. Williams said the Committee also talked about the Act 1 video and felt it was done very well. The Committee also talked about sponsorships for the scoreboard and Dr. Donahue and Mrs. Kotch provided them with an update which the Board will receive. The Committee also recommended approval from the full board for Mrs. Kotch to solicit sponsorships to sell advertisements for the new scoreboard.

Mrs. Williams said the following should be entered into the meeting minutes. She received a letter from the Pennsylvania Department of Education congratulating the Spring-Ford staff for the audit of their operations for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004 and 2003. Mrs. Williams said the Secretary of Education wrote that "it is a pleasure to commend you and your staff on this achievement". They did not have any findings or observations for these years in accordance for general procedures. Mrs. Williams acknowledged Mr. Anspach, Mrs. Rhoads, the staff of the Transportation Department, the staff in Child Census, the staff in Human Resources, and the Board Secretary.

WCTS **Pettit, Morgan, Petrowski 1st Mon. 7:30 p.m.**

Mr. Petrowski reported that the Committee met and a large part of the evening was spent on discussion regarding transporting the House of Heroes. Mr. Petrowski said there is a commitment from a driver for a cost of roughly \$18,000 to move the home so we are basically back on schedule but we need more money. Mr. Petrowski reported that there was an executive session and then a public meeting to discuss layoffs in areas where the enrollment numbers have fallen off. Mr. Petrowski said it was decided that the Board would wait one more year to see how the programs progressed. Mr. Petrowski said there was some discussion on the progress made by the superintendents on a curriculum for the Western Center that all three districts could be satisfied with. Mr. Ciresi commented that he was disturbed that he read in the paper that members of other boards were informed of the problems with the National Guard in January and our nine board members were not informed and he feels that if someone had information it should have been shared with everyone. Dr. Hurda clarified that it was not members of the other school boards who had this information but one singular member of another board who had the information. Dr. Hurda said the other members of the board were just as surprised as we were upon hearing the news. Dr. Hurda reported that the three superintendents met today along with the principals and guidance counselors of the other sending districts and she is happy to report that she believes significant progress was made this morning. Mrs. Williams said the tragedy is that the board member did not only tell us but did not even tell their own sending board members.

V. PERSONNEL

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

A. Resignations:

1. **Anne Voigt**, 5/6 Grade Center; School Nurse, for the purpose of retirement, effective September 10, 2007.

B. Extra-Curricular Contracts: High School

1. **Brian Zale**, Asst. Track & Field Coach, \$2,786, Code F

New Extra-Curricular Contract: High School

2. **Joshua Delano**, Assistant Boys' Lacrosse Coach, \$2,786, Code F

C. Extra-Curricular Contracts: 8th Grade Center

1. **Ariel Cocco**, Lacrosse Coach, \$1,930, Code H

D. Extra-Curricular Contracts: 7th Grade Center

1. **Tara Bologa**, Intramural Spring Girls' Lacrosse Coach, \$350, Code LC

New Extra-Curricular Contract: 7th Grade Center

- 2. **Sandy Flocco**, Girls' Basketball Coach, \$2,786, Code F

E. Professional Staff Substitutes:

- 1. **Randolph MacIver, II** Elementary Education
- 2. **Christa Wojtaszek** Elementary Education

F. Support Staff Substitutes:

- 1. **Susan Katein** Support

NEW PERSONNEL

G. Support Staff:

- 1. **Glenn A. Helmbold**, District; Custodian, compensation will be set at \$14.46 per hour with benefits as per the Custodial plan, effective April 30, 2007.
- 2. **Anne Rowland**, Evans Elementary School; Administrative Assistant, compensation will be set at \$16.00 per hour, pending receipt of official transcript, with benefits as per the Secretarial plan, effective April 30, 2007.

H. Leaves of Absence:

- 1. **Karen Miscavage**, High School; Special Education Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Professional Agreement, effective tentatively May 18, 2007 until the end of the second marking period of the 2007/2008 school year.
- 2. **Carol DiFrancesco**, 5/6th Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective April 10, 2007.

VI. FINANCE

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

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

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

1. <u>EVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</u>			
Colonial Electric	Electrical Workboxes (100)	\$	119.74
Office Basics	Pencil Sharpeners (85)	\$	635.85
PA American Water	Water Service	\$	590.16
PECO	Electric Service	\$	59.05

Jay R. Reynolds Inc.	Applic. #16-Plumbing Contractor	\$ 3,435.11
*Grainger	Blower/Mulcher Vacuum	\$ 270.90
*Limerick Twp M.A.	Professional Services	\$ 36.88
*Oehlert Brothers	#2 Fuel Oil	\$ 60.00
*PECO	Electric Service (2 Inv.)	\$ 8,452.55
*SMJ Contracting Inc.	Applic. #18- General Contractor	\$ 444,790.42
	TOTAL	\$ 458,450.66

2. **BROOKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

*SMJ Contracting Inc.	Applic. #9- General Contractor	\$ 51,399.03
	TOTAL	\$ 51,399.03

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

1. **Sukonik/Greenstein Condemnation**

Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services	\$ 256.00
	TOTAL	\$ 256.00

2. **Facilities Management Plan- Sports Complex**

Stephen Parks Assoc	Professional Services	\$ 5,421.62
	TOTAL	\$ 5,421.62

3. **New District Office**

Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$ 576.00
*Foreman Architects	Professional Services Inv. #15	\$ 3,621.83
	TOTAL	\$ 4,197.83

C. The Board approved the payment 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. **Weekly Checks prior to Work Session**

March

Check No. 115721 - 115851 \$ 709,385.48

April

Check No. 115852 - 115981 \$ 495,877.15

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

Check No. 115982 - 116070 \$ 478,756.13

3. **Board Checks held for approval**

Check No. 116071 - 116229 \$ 116,383.96

4. Athletic Fund
March
 Check No. 299106 – 299196 \$ 23,369.25

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

1. **Wendy Pfeffer – Pennington, NJ.** Provide six assemblies each at Brooke Elementary, Limerick Elementary and Royersford Elementary in connection with Author Day. The total cost of the contract shall not exceed four thousand one hundred fifty-four dollars and forty cents (\$4,154.40). \$1,384.80 from the 2006-2007 Brooke Artist in Residence Program, \$1,384.80 from the 2006-2007 Limerick Home and School League and \$1,384.80 from the 2006-2007 Royersford Artist in Residence Program.
2. **Marion Blumenthal Lazan – Hewlett, NY.** Provide an assembly entitled “The Presentation” with a question and answer session at the 5th/6th Grade Center. Funding will be paid through 2006-2007 5th/6th Grade Center Professional Education Services Account and shall not exceed six hundred fifty dollars (\$650.00).
3. **Earth Rhythms – West Reading, PA.** Provide two assemblies on Diversity. Funding will be paid through the 2006-2007 Limerick Elementary School Professional Education Services Account and shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).
4. **Lakeside Educational Network – Fort Washington, PA.** Provide tutoring in the home for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for one hundred (100) hours at a rate of fifty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$57.50) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2006-2007 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed five thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$5,750.00).
5. **Variety Club – Worchester, PA.** Provide Extended School Year services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for twenty-four (24) days at a rate of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2007-2008 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00).
6. **Spring Valley Branch of YMCA – Limerick, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Camp Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for two (2) weeks at a cost of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per week. Funding will be paid from the 2007-2008 IDEA Funds and shall not exceed three hundred dollars (\$300.00).
7. **Camp Joy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide Extended School Year services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for twenty (20) days at a rate of one hundred twenty dollars (\$120.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2007-2008 Special

Education Budget and shall not exceed two thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,400.00).

8. **Dr. Margaret J. Kay – Lancaster, PA.** Conduct independent educational testing and provide an independent report on a special needs student. Funding will be paid from the 2006-2007 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00).
9. **High School to Work Transition Services – Telford, PA.** Provide transition and pre-employment services for two special needs students per the IEP's. Services will be provided for one marking period at a rate of one thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$1,750.00) per student per marking period. Funding will be paid from the 2006-2007 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00).

NEW INDEPENDENT CONTRACTS

10. **Variety Club – Worcester, PA.** Provide Extended School Year services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for twenty-four (24) days at a rate of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2007-2008 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00).
11. **Variety Club – Worcester, PA.** Provide Extended School Year services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for twenty-five (25) days at a rate of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2007-2008 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed three thousand one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$3,125.00).
12. **Crossroads School – Paoli, PA.** Provide a five (5) week reading/language arts Summer Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the 2007-2008 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed one thousand twenty-five dollars (\$1,025.00).
13. **Benmore Enterprises – Bushkill, PA.** Provide three (3) presentations at Oaks Elementary School on dinosaurs on Monday, April 30, 2007. Funding will be paid by the 2006-2007 Oaks Parent Teacher Association and shall not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
14. **Kathleen Jacobs & Puppets – Forest Hill, MD.** Provide a presentation at Limerick Elementary School on Wednesday, May 16, 2007. Funding will be paid from the 2006-2007 Limerick Elementary School Guidance Budget and shall not exceed six hundred seventy-five dollars (\$675.00).

The Board approved the following **revision*** to an **independent contract**:

15. **Cathenne M. Secord – Phoenixville, PA** and Kristen Allen – Harleysville, PA. Provide in-home Applied Behavior Analysis Therapy for a special needs student as per the IEP. This contract is for one hundred seventy (170) hours at a rate of twenty dollars (\$20.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2006-2007 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed three thousand four hundred dollars (\$3,400.00).

F. The Board approved the acceptance of the following bid awards for **Custodial Supplies & Equipment, District-Wide**, for the 2007-2008 school year. Bids were due March 16, 2007. Bid awards are as follows:

Amsan L.L.C.	\$ 33,566.36
Beltex Co., Inc.	\$ 136.00
Benjamin Plastic & Supplies	\$ 13,950.00
DTK Enterprises	\$ 37,231.10
Franklin Chemical & Equip. Co.	\$ 23,808.83
Hillyard – Delaware Valley	\$221,308.56
Indco Inc.	\$ 4,879.80
The L.L. Clean Co.	\$ 727.50
L.J.C. Distributors	\$ 234.00
Lowe's Of Mechanicsburg	\$ 11,847.60
Unipak Corp.	\$ 7,480.00
Zimmerman Sanitary Supply Inc.	\$ <u>46,951.36</u>
TOTAL	\$402,121.11

G. The Board approved the **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Special Education Cost Plan** for the 2007-2008 school year in the amount of \$1,010,001.29 for the Spring-Ford Area School District.

H. The Board approved the New Personnel List (contained in the Preliminary Budget Book) for the 2007-2008 school year in the amount of \$2,190,308.00.

I. The Board approved providing additional compensation to the local tax collectors in the amount of \$2.50 per each real estate tax installment payment processed after the first. This increase is a result of the Board's March 26, 2007 approval of Resolution #2007-12 permitting installment payments for real estate taxes under Section 1502 of Act 1 of 2006.

NEW FINANCE

J. The Board approved the materials for PlanCon K, Project Refinancing, which has been reviewed and approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The PlanCon K materials are for the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2006 to Advance Refund General Obligation Bonds, Series of 1997 - Lease Number 971611. (Attachment).

- K. The Board approved the materials for PlanCon K, Project Refinancing, which has been reviewed and approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The PlanCon K materials are for the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2007 to Advance Refund General Obligation Bonds, Series of 1999 - Lease Number 992348 and to Fund Capital Projects – Non-reimbursable. (Attachment).
- L. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market – March 2007
- PSDLAF – March 2007
- PSDMAX – March 2007
- Checking Account – March 2007
- PLGIT Account – March 2007
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule – March 2007
- Payroll Account – March 2007
- Tax Account – March 2007

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – March 2007
- 7th Grade Activity – March 2007
- 8th Grade Activity – March 2007
- High School Activity – March 2007
- Athletic Account – March 2007

Bond Funds

- Note of 2003 – March 2007
- Note of 2004 – March 2007

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – March 2007
- Debt Service Fund – March 2007
- Reservation of Funds (Natorium, Insurance, Retirement) – March 2007

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – March 2007
- Cafeteria Checking Account – March 2007
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – March 2007
- Investment Account – March 2007

- M. The Board approved the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

MARCH

Checks No. 7322 - 7359	\$ 262,739.13
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- N. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits** for the 2006-2007 school year:

Permit No. 1861 - 1912

- O. The Board approved a confidential settlement and release agreement with the parents of a special education student and the authorization of payment #2007-001 in full satisfaction of claims, attorneys' fees and costs.

VII. PROPERTY

Mr. Weber made a motion to approve Items A-E and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. Mr. Ciresi commented that the Board last week asked for clarification on the rental amount on the Greenstein Property and the amount of rent is \$1400 per month. Mrs. Williams noted that Mr. Masciandaro had asked for a diagram of the bullpens that are to be installed at the high school baseball field and this was sent home in the Board packets. Mr. Grispon asked if a letter could be sent to the American Legion thanking them for this and Mrs. Williams said this would be done. The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved moving forward with the construction of a pond and habitat to be located in the courtyard of Royersford Elementary School. The cost of this project will be funded through grants as per approval at the February 20, 2007 board meeting.
- B. The Board approved the American Legion to install two fenced-in bullpens at the high school baseball field (HS Field 3 & 4). The American Legion will assume all costs involved in this project.
- C. The Board approved the tenant at the Greenstein Property to use the first floor of an outside building located on the site in exchange for lawn care on the property. The tenant will be responsible for insuring their property stored in this building. An addendum reflecting this agreement will be attached to the lease. This agreement will save the school district approximately \$1,500.00 - \$2,000.00 a year.
- D. The Board approved change order GC-2 at Evans Elementary School to SMJ to install casework in conference rooms C105 and C106. The total cost is \$12,839.00 with funding coming from the Evans Elementary School Project.
- E. The Board approved awarding the installation of the Epoxy Floor at Oaks Elementary School Kitchen and the 8th Grade Center Storage Room to the lowest bidder, M.J. BRADLEY CO. INC. in the amount of \$24,900.00, and reject all other bids. Funds will come from the General Fund Maintenance Budget.

VIII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

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

- A. The Board approved the 2007 Extended School Year (ESY) Program and positions identified below to be held at Upper Providence Elementary School, Limerick Elementary School, Royersford Elementary School, 5/6th Grade Center, 7th Grade Center, and the Senior High School. The regular program dates will be from June 28, 2007 to August 6, 2007 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 as specified in their IEP. Funding for these positions will be provided through the 2007-2008 IDEA Budget and will include FICA & Retirement payments. The following are estimates of positions needed, and may vary depending upon program enrollment:

1. Twenty (20) Special Education Teachers at a rate of \$30.00 per hour.
 2. Three (3.0) certified Speech Therapists at a rate of \$30.00 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.
- B. The Board approved a lease with ePlus Technology for computers to replace those due to be refreshed during the summer of 2007 and new computers for Evans Elementary. Most of the computers being refreshed reside in the classrooms and labs of the 5/6 and 7 Centers and the labs of Oaks and Upper Providence. The lease will include approximately: 860 HP minitowers (dual core processor, 2 GB RAM, 80 GB hard drive, DVD+/-RW, 17" ViewSonic flat panel monitor), 310 HP NC8430 laptops for staff (dual core processor, 2 GB RAM, 80 GB hard drive, DVD+/-RW, 802.11b/g wireless), 64 HP laptops to refresh two high school wireless labs (dual core processor, 2 GB RAM, 80 GB hard drive, DVD+/-RW, 802.11b/g wireless), and related support equipment such as port replicators. The total equipment value of approximately \$1,322,734 will be divided into four annual lease payments from the **1108-448** account of approximately \$213,960 for the minitowers and three annual lease payments of approximately \$190,412 for the laptops. The prices quoted represent significant, voluntary price reductions below the Costars-3 Information Technology Hardware Contract by the HP Computer Corporation. Depending upon component the price reductions range between 18% – 35%. This entire item supports the Technology Plan (Section 5.3.1, Goal 2, located in Section 5, center of page 7 of 7). Funding is from the 2007-2008 Technology Budget.
- C. The Board approved the purchase of seven new file servers to replace existing, aging servers. The total cost of the project from the **1108-758** account is approximately \$41,608. The cost quoted represents a significant, voluntary price reduction below the PEPPM (Pennsylvania Educational Purchasing Program for Microcomputers) Contract by the HPComputer Corporation. This entire item supports the Technology Plan. Funding is from the 2006-2007 Technology Budget.
- D. The Board approved the commitment of \$51,200.00 to fund the summer of 2007 refresh of computers and installation of new computers at Evans Elementary. ePlus Technology of Pennsylvania will physically remove from in-place location all of the computers due to be refreshed, physically place/connect the incoming computers for a cost of \$31,500.00. The

remaining \$18,500.00 will be used for summer hours for our Support Technicians to image, name, and join the computers to the network and to install printers. Funding is split between the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 Technology Budget.

PSBA Report

John Grispon

The Montgomery County School Directors Legislative Committee met on April 18, 2007. We had a roundtable discussion on the state budget, Accountability Block grant legislation and the proposed new teacher certification regulations.

Also Wednesday, April 18, the House Education Committee approved: HB 65, which generally requires schools to grant requests of parents of twins or higher multiple orders that their children be placed in the same classroom or in separate classrooms. The bill was amended to authorize the principal, rather than the school board, to determine an appropriate classroom placement if the requested placement is found to be disruptive to the classroom. Further, districts would not be required to place twins or higher order multiples in separate classrooms if the request would require the district to add another classroom to the grade level. A parent may appeal a principal's placement decision in the manner provided by school district policy.

As reported by PSBA last week, Pennsylvania is one of nine states participating in development of a new common Algebra II student assessment as part of the American Diploma Project. This week the Pennsylvania Department of Education announced that the Project 720 schools will participate in the first Algebra II assessment in May 2008, with a few schools participating in a field test this October.

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-T and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. Mr. Grispon asked Dr. Hurda to give more information on Item Q. Dr. Hurda said the conference request is for her to participate in the American Association of School Administrators pilot program for professional development. Dr. Hurda explained that only twenty superintendents throughout the country have been invited to participate and she hopes that the Board will approve her participation in this conference as it should be very beneficial. 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**, Board Member, to attend "*PSBA Region 11 Annual Business Meeting*" at the Williamson Restaurant in Horsham, PA on Wednesday, April 25, 2007. The total cost for this meeting is \$67.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

- B. **Donna L. Williams, John S. Grispon**, Board Members, and **Dr. Marsha R. Hurda**, Superintendent, to attend “*MCIU Annual Legislative Breakfast Meeting*” at the William Penn Inn in Gwynedd, PA on Friday, May 11, 2007. The total cost of this meeting is \$127.00 from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.
- C. **Gloria Moyer**, Coordinator of Transportation, to attend “*Hands on Workshop on the eTran System*” at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Thursday, April 26, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$97.50 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- D. **Johnna L. Weller**, Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction, and **Sheila Egleston**, Teacher, to attend “*MCIU Improvement Planning Training*” at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Tuesday, May 8, 2007. The total cost of this training is \$251.00 – \$126.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

HIGH SCHOOL

- E. **Orathia Bradley**, Assistant Principal, to attend “*Womens’ Caucus – Women in Educational Leadership: Resonance and Renewal*” at the Hotel Hershey in Hershey, PA from Wednesday, May 2 through Friday, May 4, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$374.54 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- F. **John Eckstine**, Teacher, to attend “*Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Conference*” in Hershey, PA on Thursday, April 19 and Friday, April 20, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$468.00 - \$418.00 from the 580 account and \$250.00 from the substitute account.
- G. **Kerry Mihalcik**, Nurse, to attend “*Annual PA Department of Health School Nurse Update*” at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Monday, May 14, 2007. The total cost for this conference is \$137.00 - \$12.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- H. **Mary Palladino**, Math Department Chairperson, to attend “*Introduction to Understanding By Design*” at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Wednesday, April 25, 2007. The total cost for this conference is \$215.00 - \$90.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- I. **Mary Palladino**, Math Department Chairperson, to attend “*Writing Mathematics Assessment Items*” at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Thursday, May 10, 2007. The total cost for this conference is \$145.00 - \$20.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

8TH GRADE CENTER

- J. **James A. Mercer, Jr.**, Teacher, to attend “*Graphing Technology Workshop*” at West Chester University in West Chester, PA from Monday, June 25 through Friday, June 29, 2007. The total cost for this workshop is \$710.00. No substitute is needed.

7TH GRADE CENTER

- K. **Frances K. Harmon**, Teacher, to attend *“Writing Assessment and Instruction: Creating a High Quality Writing Program”* at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Wednesday, May 23, 2007. The total cost for this conference is \$149.96 - \$24.96 from the 2006-2007 Special Education Budget and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- L. **Marilyn Erb, Kory Parsia, and Helen Hiles**, Teachers, to attend *“Understanding by Design”* at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Wednesday, April 25, 2007. The total cost for this conference is \$612.00 - \$237.00 from the 580 account and \$375.00 from the substitute account.

5TH/6TH GRADE CENTER

- M. **Stephanie Hahn and Mary Pat Long**, Teachers to attend *“SAP Training”* at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on April 23, 24, and May 1, 2, 2007. The total cost of this training is \$1740.00 – \$740.00 from the 2006-2007 Safe and Drug Free Schools Grant and \$1000.00 from the substitute account.

LIMERICK

- N. **Susan Hess**, Teacher, to attend *“Responsive Classroom I”* at Chestnutwold Elementary School in Ardmore, PA from Monday, July 30 through Friday, August 3, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$683.75 from the 2007-2008 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- O. **Rachel Shore**, Teacher, to attend *“2 Day TEACCH Training for High Functioning Students with Autism”* at the Capital Area Intermediate Unit on Tuesday, May 1 and Wednesday, May 2, 2007. The total cost for this training is \$831.20 - \$581.20 from the 2006-2007 Special Education Budget and \$250.00 from the substitute account.

DISTRICT-WIDE

- P. **Jessica Hobbs, Francine Caputo, Reesa Wurtz**, Psychologists, **Virginia Prevost, Susan Pronchik, Donna Sullivan**, Guidance Counselors, **Johnna Weller**, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, **Dave Willauer**, Principal, and **Megan Miller**, Teacher, to attend *“Response to Intervention (RtI) Readiness Symposium”* at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on Friday, May 18, 2007. The total cost for this symposium is \$361.99 - \$236.99 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

NEW CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATION

- Q. **Dr. Marsha R. Hurda**, Superintendent of Schools, to attend the *“AASA Center for System Leadership”* in Arlington, VA on Tuesday, June 5, 2007 and Wednesday, June 6, 2007. Dr. Hurda has been selected by the American Association of School Administrators to participate in a special professional pilot program called *“Leading Change – Transformation in*

Public Education". Only twenty superintendents throughout the country have been selected to participate in this project. The cost to participate is estimated to be \$872.00 from the 580 account.

- R. **Jacquelyn M. Raco**, Nurse, to attend "*Annual PA Department of Health School Nurse Update*" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Monday, May 14, 2007. The total cost of this conference is \$137.00 - \$12.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.
- S. **Michael Siggins**, Assistant Principal, **David Frankel**, **Kory Parsia**, and **Maria Elena Skrzat**, Teachers, to attend "*Montgomery County School Improvement Planning Training*" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Tuesday, May 8, 2007. The total cost of this training is \$531.15 - \$156.15 from the 2006-2007 PA Department of Education School Improvement Grant and \$375.00 from the substitute account.
- T. **Wendy Pflugler**, Librarian, to attend "*Choices in Deafness: Communication and Language*" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Thursday, May 24, 2007. There is no cost for this conference other than \$125.00 from the substitute account.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Grispon asked that Item A2 be separated. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item A1 and A3. Mr. Grispon seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

A. The following policies were approved:

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

Mr. Grispon asked that Item A2 be tabled and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

The following policy was tabled:

- 2. Policy #214 - PUPILS: Class Rank

Mr. Rocchio made a motion to approve Item B and Mr. Grispon seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

B. The Board approved for student number 10607 to be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions outlined by the Superintendent.

XI. DISCUSSION ITEM

Dr. Hurda asked Dr. Donahue to speak on this discussion item and tell everyone how things have progressed to this point. Dr. Donahue reported that the District has been working on a getting a new scoreboard and we have learned from neighboring school districts that they have been able to fund a vast majority of the project. Dr. Donahue said that both he and Mrs. Kotch have put together a

program and they would like to get the Board's permission to move forward with the package to begin marketing the advertisement of the scoreboard. Dr. Donahue said the last he heard the scoreboard has been ordered and the cost is in the vicinity of \$60,000 which with the mandate waiver is around \$90,000 less than previously thought. Dr. Donahue said this is a viable project and could possibly generate income for the Athletic Program. Mrs. Kotch reported that the actual sponsorship program will depend on how many sponsors we receive. The full sponsorship program is a five year plan and prices would range from \$20,000 for a sole sponsor down to \$6,000 if we were to get four sponsors. Mrs. Kotch said we presently have a group who is looking to sponsor one fourth of the scoreboard so we would like to pursue this. Dr. Donahue referenced the LED scrolling display for advertisement purposes and in talking with a business man from the group they felt the scoreboard was excellent exposure for their business. Dr. Donahue said the LED advertisement could be sold for \$1,000 for a one year exposure which would run at every athletic event taking place in the stadium from August to June of the following year.

Mr. Ciresi asked if there could be a full presentation at the May work session on the sponsorship capabilities. Mr. Ciresi said he would like to see the Board move forward with this idea as he feels we have a golden opportunity to have the scoreboard almost totally funded. Mr. Petrowski asked about the panel sizes and the timing needed for the panel orders for fall sports. Mrs. Kotch said if we are going to have four sponsors for the four stationary panels at the bottom of the scoreboard then we need to have the orders signed, sealed and delivered now but the LED advertisements can be done later. Mrs. Williams said the Community Relations Committee did talk about Mrs. Kotch giving her full presentation but for tonight we are pulling out one piece of the program so the Board can act on it tonight so that we can keep this on track. Dr. Hurda said one thing we need to be aware of is that we have a sponsor who would be an exclusive sponsor for one of the panels who is ready to go and she feels it is important to act on this. Dr. Hurda commented that when you get the first sponsor it is easier to then get additional sponsors. Dr. Hurda said we are in a time crunch and if the Board would feel comfortable with making a motion and approving it tonight a motion has been prepared and is ready if we decide to go that way, this would allow Mrs. Kotch to move forward with the advertising. Dr. Hurda said it is important to note that the under the plan proposed by Mrs. Kotch the scoreboard would be paid for in six years so whatever investment the District makes now will be recouped in six years. Mr. Ciresi said he is in favor of approving this tonight but he hoped for an in-depth presentation next month. Mr. Ciresi stated that the payoff may come even faster due to the \$1000 scrolling LED advertisement proposal.

- A. Spring-Ford Area School District sponsorship packages for the High School Scoreboard in Coach McNelly Stadium.

Mrs. Williams read the addendum to the agenda that follows.

VI. NEW FINANCE

Mr. Petrowski made a motion to approve Item P and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- P. The Board approved moving forward with the sponsorship package for the High School Scoreboard in Coach McNelly Stadium.

Dr. Hurda publicly acknowledged the outstanding work Mrs. Kotch has done with the adult education program. Dr. Hurda said the Board was asked to give Mrs. Kotch the opportunity to get the first and second semesters of the adult education program up and running and once that was accomplished she would move forward with this sponsorship program and she has certainly done a great job with this. Dr. Hurda thanked Mrs. Kotch for her hard work she has done enriching the school district with this additional component. Mrs. Kotch thanked Dr. Hurda and said it has been a real pleasure working for Spring-Ford and each step has been another growth as well as a positive experience and she looks forward to more experiences. Mr. Ciresi thanked Mrs. Kotch for the hard work she has put into these projects.

XII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was no report

XIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

There were no questions or comments

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Grispon made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Rocchio seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:56.

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.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Fern
Board Secretary