The May 20, 2002 board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:30 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: Martha Magee Block, Janet A. Stokes,

and Robert A. Weber

Region III: John S. Grispon and Richard J. Schroeder

Administrators: Dr. Genevieve D. Coale, Superintendent of

Schools, and Timothy C. Anspach,

Business Manager

Solicitor: Marc Davis, Esq.

Student Representative: Jeanine Herring

Clerk: Pat Dillon

Mr. Weber opened the meeting with the call of order, roll call, and Pledge of Allegiance.

# I. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Presentation of **Resolution 2002-5** honoring the **Spring-Ford Senior High School Girls Track and Field** team and coaches.
- B. Presentation of Resolution 2002-6 honoring the Spring-Ford Senior High School Chorus, Jazz Ensemble, Symphonic Concert, Parade Band and chorus and band directors.
- C. Presentation of **Resolution 2002-7** honoring the **Spring-Ford Senior High School Softball** team and coaches.
- D. Presentation to **John S. Grispon** and **Dr. Genevieve D. Coale** from the Pennsylvania School Boards Association for School Governance Inservice Education.
- E. Mrs. Jacqueline Clarke Havrilla, Principal at Limerick Elementary, made a presentation on The Looping Classroom, a concept, which allows elementary school teachers to move up with their students for at least two years. It provides stability and is sensitive to child development. Benefits include students being more on task, up to a

month, and a reduction in student apprehension. It has shown a reduction in referrals for students for special help. Possible drawbacks are conflict and reduced exposure to other teaching professionals. Mrs. Block asked how many teachers would do this. Mrs. Havrilla said it would be one teacher at this time. Mrs. Block asked whether there would be an evaluation. Yes said Mrs. Havrilla. Mr. Masciandaro asked whether looping really was included one additional month in instruction. Mrs. Havrilla said yes since the period of adjustment in the second year is unnecessary. Mr. Rocchio asked which grades were most conducive to looping. Any two grades can be looped, doing it with younger grades provides more stability said Mrs. Havrilla. Mr. Pettit said his son's looping experience was extremely beneficial. He asked if it could be applied to other grades. Dr. Coale said yes that it could.

## II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

## III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The board approved the minutes by 7-1 with Mrs. Block voting against Item III.

- A. The Administration approved of the April 15, 2002 work session minutes.
- B. The Administration approved of the April 22, 2002 board meeting minutes.

# IV. PERSONNEL

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 5-2 with Mr. Grispon and Mr. Weber voting against it.

A. The board approved of the **New Personnel List** in the amount of \$1,297,588 for the 2002-03 school year.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items B-X. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved unanimously.

B. The board approved of the resignation, with regret, of **Deborah Settle**, Learning Support Teacher at the Intermediate School. Ms. Settle will be relocating out of state, effective June 12, 2002.

- C. The board approved of the following **Leave of Absences**:
  - 1. **Gretchen Lavigne**, Learning Support Teacher at the High School for a **Childrearing Leave** of Absence, effective August 21, 2002 for the 2002/2003 school year.
  - 2. **Marykay O'Callaghan**, Learning Support Teacher at Limerick Elementary School for a **Maternity Leave** of Absence, effective tentatively September 14, 2002 for a portion of the 2002/2003 school year.
  - 3. **Barbara Emery**, Learning Support Teacher at the Senior High School for a **Family Medical Leave** of Absence, effective May 6, 2002 for the balance of the 2001/2002 school year.
  - 4. **James Williams**, Custodian at the High School for an **Uncompensated Le** ave of Absence, effective April 24, 2002 for the balance of the 2001/2002 school year.
- D. The board approved **Dana Day** as the teacher for Fast ForWord at the Intermediate School to fill a position previously approved by the Board. She is currently employed by the district. Compensation will be set at \$28 per hour for 5 hours a day for 29 days for a cost of \$4,060 plus benefits (FICA & Retirement) at a cost of \$200.16 for a grand total of \$4,260.16.
- E. The board approved **Megan Miller** as a Learning Support teacher for the Extended School Year Program at Brooke Elementary School to fill a position previously approved by the Board. She is currently employed by the district. Compensation will be set at \$28 per hour for 168 hours for a cost of \$4,704 plus benefits (FICA & Retirement) at a cost of \$231.91 for a grant total of \$4,935.91.
- F. The board approved **Jean Bertucci** as a Learning Support teacher for the Extended School Year Program at Brooke Elementary School to fill a position previously approved by the Board. She is currently employed by the district. Compensation will be set at \$28 per hour for 168 hours for a cost of \$4,704 plus benefits (FICA & Retirement) at a cost of \$231.91 for a grant total of \$4,935.91.
- G. The board approved **Beverly Miller** as an Autistic Support teacher for the Extended School Year Program at Limerick Elementary School to fill a position previously approved by the Board. She is currently employed by the district. Compensation will be set at \$28 per hour for 168 hours for a cost of \$4,704 plus benefits (FICA & Retirement) at a cost of \$231.91 for a grant total of \$4,935.91.

- H. The board approved **Brenda Haydt** as an Autistic Support Teacher for the Extended School Year Program at the Intermediate School to fill a position previously approved by the Board. She is currently employed by the district. Compensation will be set at \$28 per hour for 168 hours for a cost of \$4,704 plus benefits (FICA & Retirement) at a cost of \$231.91 for a grant total of \$4,935.91.
- I. The board approved **Megan Seip** as an Autistic Support Teacher for the Extended School Year Program at the Middle School to fill a position previously approved by the Board. She is currently employed by the district. Compensation will be set at \$28 per hour for 168 hours for a cost of \$4,704 plus benefits (FICA & Retirement) at a cost of \$231.91 for a grant total of \$4,935.91.
- J. The board approved **Shelly Mallozzi** as a Speech Therapist for the Extended School Year Program at Brooke Elementary School to fill a position previously approved by the Board. She is currently employed by the district. Compensation will be set at \$28 per hour for 168 hours for a cost of \$4,704 plus benefits (FICA & Retirement) at a cost of \$231.91 for a grant total of \$4,935.91.
- K. The board approved Gina Lasky-Butterweck as a Speech Therapist for the Extended School Year Program at the Intermediate School, the Middle School and Limerick Elementary School to fill a position previously approved by the Board. She is currently employed by the district. Compensation will be set at \$28 per hour for 168 hours for a cost of \$4,704 plus benefits (FICA & Retirement) at a cost of \$231.91 for a grant total of \$4,935.91.
- L. The board approved to extend employment of **Jeannette Hellauer**, as a Special Education Teacher to support an Extended School Year program for a special education student as per the student's IEP. Compensation will be set at \$28 per hour for a total of 60 hours, not to exceed \$1680, effective July 1, 2002 to August 8, 2002. Funding for the program will be supported by the District's IDEA supplement.
- M. The board approved **Laura McQuaid** as an Instructional Assistant in the Middle School Autistic Support Program for the Extended School Year Program. She is currently employed by the district. Compensation will be set at \$12.00 per hour for 168 hours for a cost of \$2,016 plus benefits (FICA & Retirement) at a cost of \$99.39 for a grand total of \$2,015.39.
- N. The board approved of an **independent contracts**:
  - 1. Lapreziosa Occupational Therapy Services, Pottstown, PA, to provide occupational therapy for 37 students attending Extended School year Summer Program 2002. Compensation will be set at \$13,110 for 264 sessions of therapy. The services will take place in Brooke, Limerick, Intermediate,

- Middle School and the children's home or other sites. Funding will be paid through Federal IDEA funds.
- 2. Invo-Health Care Associates, Inc., Doylestown, PA, to provide Psychological Support Services for two (2) special education students as per their IEP's. Compensation will be set at \$60 per hour for a total of 28 hours of service, not to exceed \$1680. Funding will be obtained from District funds not budgeted during the 2001/2002 school year. The contract is retroactive from April 16 and April 24, 2002 and will continue to the end of the 2001/2002 school year.
- 3. **Jeffrey F. Thaxton**, Newark, DE, to present two (2) assemblies to educate the 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade students in the Middle School on Drug, Alcohol and Violence Prevention. Compensation will not exceed \$500 and will be effective on April 26, 2002. Funding will be paid through (SADD) Students Against Drinking and Driving Account.
- 4. Camp Joy, Schwenksville, PA, to provide extended school year programs for three special education students. Compensation will be set at \$86 a day for 57 days not to exceed \$4902, effective June 17 through August 23, 2002. A portion will be funded from the District Budget, not IDEA reimbursed, and the balance IDEA reimbursed, not in the budget-ESY expense.
- 5. Link Davis, Schwenksville, PA, to provide eighteen (18) 45 minute classroom presentations to second grade students in all five elementary schools. Mr. Davis is a local entomologist and the presentations will be a culminating activity for the students' study of "Butterflies and Moths" as part of their second grade science curriculum. The presentations will take place May 22 June 5, 2002, and will cost \$30.00 each for a total of \$540 to be paid from the Elementary Science Budget.
- 6. **Perkiomen Valley Academy**, Frederick, PA, to purchase five (5) special education student slots at Perkiomen Valley Academy (PVA) Day treatment program for school year 2002/2003. Compensation will be set at \$14,950 per student for a total cost not to exceed \$74,750.
- 7. **New Life Youth and Family Services,** Harleysville, PA to purchase seven (7) special education student slots at New Life Youth and Family Services for the Alternative Education Program for school year 2002/2003. Compensation will be set at \$17,100 per student for a total cost not to exceed \$119,700.
- 8. **Invo Health Associates, Inc.**, Doylestown, PA to provide physical therapy services for 25 special education students for the extended school year (ESY) program as per their IEPs.

The cost will be \$52 per hour for 90 hours of service (15 hours per wk for six weeks) for a total cost of \$4,680.

O. The board approved of the following **extracurricular/ supplemental contract(s):** 

Bruce Roberts Track Intramural – IS. Spring Code LC (replace Wendy Kratz – who resigned)

- P. The board approved of the attached **job description** for a **Title I Math Support Teacher** to report to the building principal(s).
- Q. The board approved of the attached job description for a Maintenance Foreman to report to the Director of Planning, Operations and Facilities.
- R. The board approved of the attached revised **job description** for a **Senior Field Technician-Computer and Telephone** to report to the Director of Technology.
- S. The board approved to delete the **job description** for a **Field Technician**, which reported to the Director of Technology.
- T. The board approved of the attached **job description** for a **Senior Field Technician-Computers** to report to the Director of Technology.
- U. The board approved of the attached revised **job description** for a **Technician's Assistant** to report to the Director of Technology.
- V. The board approved of the following **professional substitutes**:

Jennifer M. Ayers Elementary
Phoenixville, PA 19460 Cabrini College

Deborah Wolski Elementary

Phoenixville, PA 19460 Immaculata College

W. The board approved of the following **support staff substitutes**:

Tami J. Castrianni Cafeteria

Royersford, PA 19468 Playground Asst.

Patricia R. Shanaman Cafeteria

Royersford, PA 19468

Albert W. Gardner, III Custodian

Pottstown, PA 19464

Georgia Piccarreta Custodian

Spring City, PA 19475

X. The board approved of the attached **job description** for a **Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction** to report to the Assistant Superintendent.

# VII. FINANCE

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved 7-1 with Mr. Weber voting no.

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

1/. <u>Checks Being Held for Board Approval</u> Check No. 85854-85940 \$94,604.07

2/. <u>Athletic Fund</u> Check No. 293770-293907 \$13,974.29

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Items B-E. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved unanimously.

B. The board approved of the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for 2001-2002:

Limerick TownshipNo.Royersford BoroughNo.Spring City BoroughNo.Upper Providence TownshipNo.

C. The board approved of the following **additions/deletions** from the per capita tax for 2001-2002:

Limerick Township Additions No. 51-603 Limerick Township Deletions No. 698-709 **Roversford Borough Additions** No. 91-95 **Royersford Borough Deletions** No. 195-200 Spring City Borough Additions No. 78-160 Spring City Borough Deletions No. 49 No. 233-1144 Upper Providence Township Additions Upper Providence Township Deletions No. 470

D. The board approved of the following Treasurers' Reports:

Treasurer's Report - April 30, 2002

Money Market - April 30, 2002

Nataturium Fund – April 30, 2002

Checking Accounts – April 30, 2002

Payroll Account - April 30, 2002

Athletic Fund - April 30, 2002

Investment Schedule – April 30, 2002

Investment Schedule - Capital Account - April 30, 2002

Note of 2000 - April 30, 2002

High School & Middle School Projects - April 30, 2002

G.O.B. of 1999 – April 30, 2002

Capital Reserve Fund – April 30, 2002

Series A 2001 – April 30, 2002

General Fund – Tax Account – April 30, 2002

Revenue Budget Report - April 30, 2002

Summary Budget Report -

Check Register – April 30, 2002

General Fund – April 30, 2002

Use of Facilities Report – May 20, 2002

Cafeteria M/M Account - April 30, 2002

Cafeteria Checking Account - April 30, 2002

E. The board approved of the following reports:

Cafeteria Savings Schedule

Cafeteria Investment Schedule

Cafeteria Profit and Loss Statement

Cafeteria Participation Report

Cafeteria List of Bills

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Item F. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 8-1 with Mr. Weber voting against it.

F. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of **MAY**, in connection with the **G.O.B. Series of 1999**:

# 1. <u>LIMERICK ELEMENTARY RENOVATIONS</u>

Architectural Studio	Professional Services	\$ 2,769.00
*Torrisi Electric, Inc.	Applic. #20- Electrical	\$ 2,500.01
	TOTAL	\$ 5 269 01

## 2. OAKS ELEMENTARY RENOVATIONS

PDM Service Company	Playback Monitor System/Stage	\$ 745.00
	TOTAL	\$ 745.00

\*NEW BUSINESS

## 3. INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Robert R. Rosen Assoc.	Professional Services	\$	150.00
Spring-Ford School Dis.	Postage- Fed Ex (2 Inv.)	\$	29.09
*Upper Providence Twp.	Professional Services	\$	614.92
*The Prisco Group	Professional Services	\$	21,333.00
*R.M. Shoemaker Co.	Applic. #5- General Contractor	\$2,	933,313.00
	TOTAL	\$2,	955,440.01

# 4. UPPER PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Robert R. Rosen Assoc.	Professional Services	\$	150.00
Spring-Ford School Dis.	Postage-Fed. Ex (2 Inv.)	\$	29.10
U.S. Engineering Lab.	Soil Testing & Inspection	ı \$	6,727.23
*The Prisco Group	Professional Services	\$	5,237.00
·	TOTAL	\$	12,143.33

# 5. REFUND

*Spring-Ford School Dis. Credit Due-General Fund	\$ 1,199.89
TOTAL	\$ 1,199.89

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items G, H, and I. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved unanimously.

G. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of MAY in connection with the CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT - Fund 22:

Concession	Stand/Sto	rage Project

Dave Kuterbach	Dig & Install Sewer Pipes	\$ 2,340.00
Dave Kuterbach	Labor & Equip Stone/Driveway	\$ 640.00
	TOTAL	\$ 2,980.00

H. The board approved that the District employ ten Instructional Assistants for Technology (IAT) this summer for the purpose of installing new computer equipment and upgrading software on existing equipment. It is estimated that the work will require approximately 1500 person-hours at a cost of approximately \$23,000. The total hours and the total cost also includes approximately 135 hours for custodial substitutes to physically place the new equipment and discard packaging. The total cost is less than what would be charged by outside installers just to install the new computers -- not counting re-imaging of existing equipment. IATs will be scheduled beginning immediately after school is out and around their vacations. Funded by the Technology Fund

## \*NEW BUSINESS

I. The board approved of the continuation of the **Microsoft School Agreement** for a third year. The District entered into this agreement to ensure the usage of the most current Microsoft software District wide while evening the cost of software on an annual basis. The agreement licenses Microsoft software for use on all District computers for one year at a cost of approximately \$105,370.00. During the term of the agreement, all computers will receive all upgrades of the covered software free of additional charge. The packages include: Windows XP Operating System, Office XP including Front Page, Works, Encarta, Visual Studio, and BackOffice client licenses. Timely adoption of this item not only allow us to upgrade all current district computers, it will license additional new computers for the coming year without additional cost. Funding will come from the Technology Fund and was an anticipated purchase in the current budget.

Regarding Item J, Mr. Weber asked about the net savings. It was approximately \$242,000 said Mr. Anspach. Mr. Schroeder asked why it was different from previously noted. Mr. Anspach said Blue Cross had a contingency reduction as well as a savings across the board. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item J. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved unanimously.

J. The board approved to authorize prepayment in August 2002, of **Blue Cross Health Care premium** (estimated premium of \$4,644,584) in order to save \$292,440 (3.75%) to help offset expenditures for the 2002/2003 budget. The net savings to the 2002/2003 Budget is approximately \$242,124 because of loss interest incurred through out the year. The Chester County Medical Affiliation members determined that an August 15, 2002 would allow more districts to take advantage of the savings opportunity.

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item K. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved unanimously.

K. The board approved to borrow funds (if needed) from the Capital Reserve fund for approximately 1 month in order to meet cash obligations of the prepayment of **Blue Cross Health Care premium**. The general fund will reimburse the Capital Reserve fund in full (amount borrowed) and for any lost interest at the rate of (2%).

Mr. Schroeder restated his opposition to Item L saying it used the fund balance to reduce the district dollar commitment. As a result, WCTS is at risk for not being able to fund large initiatives or repairs, he added. Mrs. Stokes asked how many students the district sends to the vo-tech. Dr. Coale said 102 to 106 students. Cost per student has been reduced from \$11,000 to \$12,000. Mr. Anspach reported it as \$7,000. Mrs. Stokes asked what would happen if the board did not pass the budget this evening. The solicitor said the vote is calculated by board and a formula of assessment; any two districts would have the majority of assessment in

this case. Mrs. Block concurred with Mr. Schroeder and Mr. Weber who voiced opposition to the budget. She added that she would vote in favor of including it in the district budget since the district is legally obligated to do so. Mrs. Stokes asked if there was a legal obligation to pass it. If it is not passed, said the solicitor, they will come back with another budget (if the other two districts also do not approve it). Ultimately, a budget must be passed. Mr. Pettit asked if the other districts voted on it. Mr. Masciandaro asked for a counterproposal from the joint committee representatives. Mr. Schroeder said WCTS maintains a fund balance to improve the facility. Two years ago, it was \$840,000, some of it used to replace boilers and install heating upgrades. It is now in the \$400,000 and several major projects, such as sewage, roofing, and parking upgrades, are planned. We felt it was inappropriate to take from the fund balance because a couple of districts have difficult situations, said Mr. Schroeder. Mr. Masciandaro said that he had a problem voting against the budget. Mrs. Block said that a mechanism is in place to take a five-year averaging of costs based on the numbers of students enrolled. She said that Upper Perkiomen representatives said that they needed to reduce the budget to reduce the amount their districts would contribute. Later, Mrs. Block said, it was learned that Upper Perkiomen has a \$91 million fund balance. She said members were angered at the revelation. Pottsgrove School District is having serious budgetary problems. The total increase to Pottsgrove would have been \$35,000. Spring-Ford's enrollment at WCTS has been increasing and Spring-Ford's contribution in the future will increase, she added. The board voted 0-8, against the WCTS budget.

L. The board voted against approving the final proposed budget for the Western Center for Technical Studies for the 2002-03 school year in the amount of \$4,167,831. The Spring-Ford Area School District cost is \$861,249, representing a \$117,065 (11.9%) decrease from the 2001-02 school year.

Is the health insurance savings included? asked Mr. Weber. No said Mr. Anspach. This budget includes a 9.1% budget and I believe we should try to lessen the tax increase said Mr. Masciandaro, adding that 8% was still high. Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Item M. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. There was a tie of 4-4 with Mr. Grispon, Mr. Weber, Mr. Schroeder, and Mrs. Block voting against it. The solicitor cautioned the board that it was at risk for removal from office if a budget is not passed by July 1<sup>st</sup> thus adopting a temporary budget 30 days ahead of time. He recommended setting up a special meeting in June. The preliminary budget must be approved in May, he added. Mr. Anspach added that when approval is delayed, it means tax bills will go out later, and a reduction in income for the district. A discussion ensued. Mrs. Stokes said this was the preliminary budget and changes could still be made. Mr. Schroeder said the level funding for the retirement fund should be included so the district would not be hit with a large increase in the future.

Mr. Pettit said the preliminary budget should be passed since the district would be losing revenue. Mr. Schroeder said a special meeting could address the concerns. Mr. Weber asked if another vote could be taken and the solicitor said yes, as long as one of the no votes made the motion. Mrs. Block said she didn't want to see the lowest budget passed this year to see an increase in what the district will have to contribute to the retirement next year and have a 7.- increase this year and a 11% increase next year. That is not fair to taxpayers, she said. She cited the new teachers contract, additional staff for the new schools, increased health care benefits and said it was important to plan for these expenses. She said it was appropriate to vote the budget down now rather than meet round the clock in June to approve a budget. Mr. Schroeder said the budget needed to address issues such as being sure the retirement situation is funded properly, seeing that if the tax collection rate decreases that it doesn't force the district to raise revenue, addressing debt service realistically, and maintaining an appropriate fund balance, which the board does not do. Mr. Masciandaro asked whether the credit rating was increased. It is AAA said Mr. Anspach. Our fund balance is good because we do save a lot of money said Mr. Masciandaro. We should be saving 5% or more for unallocated funds said Mr. Schroeder. Mr. Grispon offered to amend the motion to make it \$72,352,313 or a 9% increase. There was no second. Mr. Weber said that he would make this motion for this evening only and said he would not vote for the budget until a year round school program was in place. Mr. Weber said year round schooling would save the school district \$1 million a year. Mr. Schroeder said no one on the board supports year round school. Mr. Pettit cited a letter from Ronald Riker, an Upper Providence resident, who mentions year round school as one of nine options to save the district money. Mr. Weber made a motion to approve Item M. Mrs. Stokes seconded the motion. The board voted 5-3 in support of the budget with Mr. Grispon, Mrs. Block, and Mr. Schroeder voting against it. Mr. Weber called for the continuation of the board discussion on board committees or committee of the whole.

M. The board approved the **Preliminary General Fund Budget** for the 2002/2003 school year in the amount of \$71,952,343. The proposed budget will be made available for public inspection at least twenty (20) days prior to the date of the meeting at which the proposed budget will be presented and considered for approval as the final budget. Final action of the budget cannot be taken until at least thirty (30) days have passed from the time that the proposed budget was adopted.

# F. 8:30 – 9:10 p.m. Continued Discussion on Board Committees/Committee of the Whole

Mrs. Block said as a result of the conference on policy governance, seven board members who attended agreed it was a good idea. She said to proceed with committee meetings for the month of June; then try to reach

consensus as to whether to proceed with policy governance; then discuss how to implement it. She suggested that the board decide whether to get training or independent study to understand the concept. She suggested getting copies of John Carver's book. She suggested that the time usually put into some committees would be used instead to discuss board governance. Some committees would continue. The first meeting would be to set goals for the district administration. The second meeting would be to measure the administration's performance of those goals. Mr. Rocchio, Mrs. Block, Mr. Schroeder, and Mr. Pettit said that commitment from the full board to the concept of board governance was essential for success, then training would be necessary. Dr. Coale expressed support for the concept and training. When asked by Mrs. Block, Mrs. Stokes said she was open to explore other options than the committees. Mr. Weber said he was not opposed to committees as a whole. Mrs. Block said that it sounded like the board was willing to make a commitment. Mr. Masciandaro suggested getting a facilitator to help the board establish the program. Discussion ensued and the board concluded leaving out the facilitator until more information was researched. Mrs. Block made a motion for the administration to find consultants that could provide training in policy governance, obtain the costs, and available dates. In addition, the motion included purchasing 2 sets of audiotapes and 2 sets of videotapes for board members to borrow – with a cost not to exceed \$200 for the videos and audiotapes. This should be completed by the work session in June. Mr. Grispon seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Mr. Grispon added that he wanted Dr. Coale to come forward with a proposal to implement the structure. (The discussion concluded.)

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Item N. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

N. The board approved the transfer of \$546,863.50 from the GOB Series A 2001 to the GOB Series 1999 to reimburse for the Limerick Elementary Cash Escrow Account. This transfer will allow the district to spend down the remaining funds in the GOB Series of 1999 in order to close the account in a timely manner. The Limerick Elementary Cash Escrow Account will be part of the GOB Series A 2001.

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item O. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 7-1 with Mr. Weber voting against it.

O. The board approved the transfer of \$3,436,516.10 from the **GOB Series**A 2001 to the GOB Series 1999 to reimburse for the Upper Providence Elementary Cash Escrow Account. This transfer will allow the district to spend down the remaining funds in the GOB Series of 1999 in order to close the account in a timely manner. The Upper Providence Elementary Cash Escrow Account will be part of the GOB Series A 2001.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item P. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

P. The board approved of **PlanCon Part K** (Lease Number 011002), Brooke Elementary Project Refinancing, Issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2001, to Refund General Obligation Bonds, Series AA of 1993 (Lease Number 931002). The amount financed \$5,995,000 with a permanent reimbursable rate of 46.59%.

## VIII. PROPERTY

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved 5-3 with Mr. Grispon, Mr. Weber, and Mrs. Block voting against it.

A. UP Elementary School - R M Shoemaker GC-1

The board approved of this change order for the work required per DEP/Soil & Erosion that was implemented after the original bid date and start of the project for a total **addition of \$49,500**.

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item B. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 5-3 with Mr. Grispon, Mr. Weber, and Mrs. Block voting against it.

B. **UP Elementary School - R M Shoemaker GC-2** 

The board approved this change order for work that was added to the project by both the township and PennDot after the bid documents were awarded for a total **addition of \$94,557**.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items C and D. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 7-1 with Mr. Weber voting against it.

C. UP Elementary School - R M Shoemaker GC -3

The board approved of this change order to change from the specified brick to another manufacturer who meets the same critieria for a (**deduct \$14,134.**)

# D. UP Elementary School - R M Shoemaker GC-4

The board approved of this change order to eliminate the expansion joint materials shown on drawings but not needed for a total (**deduct \$1,782.**)

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item E. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 6-2 with Mr. Grispon and Mrs. Block voting against it.

## E. SF New Intermediate School- R M Shoemaker GC -1

The board approved of this change order for the work required per DEP/Soil & Erosion that was implemented after the original bid date and start of the project for a total **add \$49,500**.

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item F. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 5-3 with Mr. Grispon, Mrs. Block, and Mr. Schroeder voting against it.

## F. SF New Intermediate School - R M Shoemaker GC - 2

The board approved of this change order for work that was added to the project by both the township and PennDot after the bid documents were awarded for a total **add \$94,557**.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items G, H, and I. It was seconded by Mr. Masciandaro. It was approved 8-0.

# G. SF New Intermediate School - RM Shoemaker GC - 3

The board approved of this change order to change from the specified brick to another manufacturer who meets the same criteria for a **(deduct \$28,697.)** 

# H. SF New Intermediate School - R M Shoemaker GC - 4

The board approved of this change order to eliminate the expansion joint materials shown on drawings but not needed for a total (deduct \$7,350.)

# I. SF New Intermediate School - R M Shoemaker GC - 5

The board approved of the change order to *change* to a single acoustical block in the gym and cafeteria areas in lieu of an 8 inch regular block and a 4 inch acoustical block for a labor savings (**deduct \$7,727.**)

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Item J. It was seconded by Mr. Masciandaro. It was approved 7-1 with Mr. Weber voting against it.

J. The board approved the Spring-Ford Area School District to extend the current agreement with EI Associates of Harrisburg, PA for the design and construction of **eight additional classrooms** with appropriate building systems connected to the existing new K-4 elementary school under construction.

Mr. Schroeder asked whether this was for total project cost and was told yes. Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Item K. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- K. The board approved the renovation of the Spring-Ford Area School District **Middle School** in an amount not to exceed \$9.2 million for the project. The scope of the project for the 44-year old school includes the following:
  - Exterior work: stone trim, brickwork, doors and roof.
  - Interior of the building: vinyl floor covering, terrazzo, cafeteria floor, gymnasium floor, acoustical ceilings in instructional areas, corridors and cafeteria, and toilets.
  - HVAC: replacement of existing unit ventilators with an upgraded ventilation system
  - Plumbing: repair storm drain lines, replace urinals and damaged trim and flush valves on toilets
  - Electrical: upgrade lighting levels and emergency lighting systems to meet current codes
  - Code changes: remove and replace the fire alarm system, upgrade toilets for use by disabled persons, remove and replace hood in the kitchen, provide signage for disabled persons to meet current code, install a fire suppression system throughout the entire facility
  - Educational upgrades: modify technology education area to accommodate three teaching stations, modify three substandard classrooms into a special education suite for two classrooms.

## XI. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mrs. Block made a motion to approve Item A, B, and C1. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

A. The board approved of the girls' basketball team request to participate in the KSA (Kaylee Scholarship Association) Basketball Tournament, December 26-31, 2002 in Orlando, Florida. The tournament will be for varsity and junior varsity level competition and each will be in a pool of eight teams from different parts of the country. Each team will play three games in the tournament to crown a champion. The games played are part of the 2002-2003 schedule that allows a maximum of 24 contests as per PIAA by laws. The high school girls basketball program and staff will conduct fund raising events from April through December to help defer the costs of this unique opportunity. There will be no cost to the district.

All travel reservations and itineraries are being handled Campus Get-A-Ways in Exton, PA who works in conjunction with KSA. One KSA Scholarship is awarded to each high school that participates in a KSA sponsored event. The Two Hundred and Fifty dollar (\$250.00) scholarship is intended to reward and bring recognition to those students who have chosen to expand their high school education by participating in

athletics. Each KSA School Scholarship recipient will automatically be nominated to compete for the KSA National Scholarship Award. The recipient is selected based on criteria determined by KSA and the winner is awarded the amount of at least Five Thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) and will be awarded to at least two students.

- B. The board approved of the **2002-2003 summer curriculum** projects and assessment listed in the amount of \$60,160.10 (based on current rate of \$28.00/hr. plus benefits).
- C. The board approved of the following **new textbooks** as part of the curriculum cycle adoption for 2002-2003.

1. <u>Textbook</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	Cost
English, Gr. 11 Catcher in the Rye	Little, Brown & Co. (1951/1991)	\$245.00
Acting Classes H.S Audition: Everything Actor Needs to Know Get the Part	An Bantam Books (1979)	\$540.00
An Actor Prepares	Routledge/Theatre Arts Books (1989)	\$1,140.00
Family & Consumer Science, H.S.  The Developing Child	r d Glencoe, McGraw-Hill (2001)	\$1,260.00
Mathematics, I.S. Everyday Math	Everyday Learning Corp. (2001)	\$35,000.00
Science, H.S. Holt Science Spectru A Balanced Approac	um: Holt, Rinehart & Winston (2001)	\$4,640.00
Microbiology An Introduction (7 <sup>th</sup> Ed.)	Benjamin Cummings (2002)	\$16,800.00
Science, M.S. Science Explorer – Physical Science	Prentice Hall (2001)	\$29,000.00
Science, K-6 Additional Delta Scie Modules to support r	ence new PA Academic Standards	\$40,000.00
Proposed new text Economics	for Economics Elective, Gr. 12 Holt, Rinehart & Winston (2003)	\$5,250.00

# Proposed new text for Sociology Elective, Gr. 12

Sociology and You Glencoe, McGraw-Hill (2001) \$10,200.00

# Proposed new text for American Government, Gr. 11

U.S. Government, Glencoe, McGraw-Hill (2003) \$30,300.00 Democracy in Action

## Text for part-time Learning Support History classes, Gr. 9 10

Creating America: A McDougal/Littell (2001) \$720.00 History of the U.S.

Mrs. Block made a motion to approve Item C2. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 7-1 with Mr. Grispon voting against it.

# 2. Textbook Publisher Cost

#### Science for HS

Chemistry Addison Wesley \$16,500.00 (update to 2001 edition)

# Social Studies, Proposed new texts for AP U.S. History Elective Gr. 11 & 12

The American People, Addison Wesley Longman (2001) \$1,200.00 Creating a Nation & a Society

Historical Viewpoints, Addison Wesley Longman (1999) \$1,160.00 Notable Articles from American Heritage, 8<sup>th</sup> Ed.

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items D-H. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

D. The board approved of the Spring-Ford Area School District to enter into an agreement with the Perkiomen Valley School District for 19 slots at a cost of \$4,750 per student. (Total \$90,250 for the **New Beginnings Alternative Education** Program for the 2002-03 school year.)

The following motions need to be approved by the Spring-Ford Area School District board of directors prior to submission for approval to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

- E. The board approved the 5-6-7 school with estimated completion time of August 2004, to be named the **Spring-Ford Area School District Intermediate School**.
- F. The board approved for the current intermediate school for grades 5 and 6, located on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Washington Street in Royersford, to be renamed the **Spring-Ford Area School District Middle School**,

- effective August 2004, when eighth grade students will be housed in the building.
- G. The board approved of the current middle school for grades 7 and 8, located at 400 South Lewis Road, Royersford, PA to be renamed the **Spring-Ford Area School District Ninth Grade Center**, effective August 2005. Ninth grade will be considered part of the high school.
- H. The board approved of the Spring-Ford Area School District administration to investigate the obtainment of a grant with the Friends of Mingo Creek in order to develop a plan to create a **Nature Trail/Environmental Education Station** on the campus of the K-4 Upper Providence Elementary School and the 5-7 Intermediate School.

## X. CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-I. Mrs. Block seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

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

CODE:580 Account: Conference/Training, Registration, Food, and Accommodations

#### DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Shirley A. Rhoads**, Assistant Business Manager, to attend *"PA Access Participant Meeting"* in King of Prussia, PA on May 20, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$30.00 from the 580 account.
- B. **Loretta Bitterman**, Assistant Coordinator of Transportation, to attend the Pupil Transportation Conference, State College, PA, from June 25 to June 28, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$659 from the 580 account.
- C. **Diane Bearde**, Secretary in the Business Office, to attend the PA ACCESS Participant Meeting, King of Prussia, on May 20, 2002. The total cost is \$10 from the 580 account.

# **HIGH SCHOOL**

D. **Daniel Holman**, Athletic Trainer at the High School, to attend the Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers Society Clinical Symposium, Harrisburg, PA, on May 3, June 1, & 2, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$472 from the 580 account.

E. Cheryl Heiser, Administrative Assistant at the High School, to attend Excelling As A First-time Supervisor, King of Prussia, PA, on Wednesday, July 10, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$149 from the 580 account.

## INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

F. Anne Voigt, Intermediate School Nurse, and Debora Zelle, Brooke School Nurse, to attend "Advances in School Nursing, 2002 Regional Symposia" in Atlantic City, New Jersey from July 22 – 24, 2002. The information obtained from the symposia will be shared with all District nurses at the start of the 2002-03 school year. The total cost for two people for the symposia is \$1,908.00 – from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.

## **ELEMENTARY**

- G. **Kelly Kurtas,** Kindergarten Teacher at Limerick and Oaks Elementary Schools, to attend "Increase Teaching Success with Your Kindergartners" at the Sheraton Bucks Hotel in Langhorne, PA on Friday, June 7, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$329.00 \$184.00 from the 580 account and \$145.00 from the substitute account.
- H. **Janice Straubel**, District Environmental Education Teacher (K-6) to attend "*Project Wild*" at the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Assoc., on Saturday, June 8, 2002. The total cost of the workshop is \$80.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

#### **MAINTENANCE**

 Tom Melissen and Gerald LeGrande, HVAC Department, to attend the US EPA, Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools All Day Workshop, May 21, 2002 in Chevy Chase, MD. There are no costs to the district. No substitutes are needed.

# PSBA REPORT ......John S. Grispon

Mr. Grispon reported that the Montgomery County School Directors Legislative Committee met on May 15<sup>th</sup> and the hot topic discussed was revisions to Chapter 4. The state board required PSSA scores to be added to student transcripts and eliminated putting it on diploma seals.

Each chamber deleted from its budget bill \$75 million that Gov. Schweiker proposed for the school district of Philadelphia. Each chamber added funding for the basic education subsidy. House Bill 2089 added over \$200 million to the basic education subsidy and \$21 million to the special education subsidy. Senate Bill 5 provided approximately \$386 million in

basic education subsidies but requires school districts to utilize \$174 million to reduce property taxes. The Senate did not add additional dollars to the special education line item. The House amended the Senate bill and returned it to the Senate. The Senate is expected not to concur and the bill is expected to be referred to the joint House-Senate Conference Committee. It is expected that the commonwealth budget will not occur until mid-June.

Mandatory funding of the IDEA at 40% remains an issue. A voucher fight may occur. The Florida McKay program may be a possible model. It gives funding to local school districts so that parents of a disabled child can chose to send the child to private school. The money comes out of funds that would have gone to the local district. (end of report)

Mrs. Block asked about the reasoning for inserting PSSA scores on student transcripts. Mr. Grispon said it was to make students take PSSA tests seriously. He added that he is drafting a resolution opposing this motion. Mrs. Block asked about the Florida model and Mr. Grispon said it was a push for President Bush's vouchers.

## IX. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Masciandaro asked if these items were mandated by law. Either are the solicitor said. Mrs. Block said policy governance and school district policies are not synonymous. We are required by law to adopt policies on certain topics, she added. Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- A. The board approved of the following policies:
  - 1. **Policy #707** Use of School Facilities
  - 2. **Policy #906.1** Anonymous Communications

# MOTION ON YEAR ROUND SCHOOLING

Mr. Weber urged the board to direct the administration to establish year round school to save \$23 million over a 20-year period. Mrs. Block asked him to put his statement into a motion to allow the board to vote on it. A discussion regarding year round school and new construction ensued. Mrs. Stokes and Mr. Pettit expressed interest in hearing more research on the topic. Mr. Grispon said new construction and year round schooling are mutually exclusive. Mr. Masciandaro asked if the facilities committee considered year round schooling. Dr. Coale said no. Mr. Masciandaro said that he wanted an evaluation from the administration. Mr. Grispon said if it doesn't work, construction of a new building would be delayed. Mr. Weber said the money saved on the interest would be the same as inflation. Mr.

Grispon asked him to pay the difference and Mr. Weber said he would. Mr. Schroeder asked how the \$23 million would be saved if new construction wouldn't be needed until 2010. Mr. Schroeder said basic inflation rates would require spending \$35 million for an elementary school. Mr. Schroeder asked what capacity year round school would absorb. Mr. Weber said in 2010, and assuming the district only uses 80% of the building, the district would save 25% of the 87%. Mr. Schroeder asked about enrollment. Dr. Coale said a 1300 student surplus would not fit in a year round school. Dr. Coale said if you go with a 9-3 model, at least half of the students taking PSSA would not have the appropriate preparation and this development would affect performance and accountability. Dr. Coale said she would have major concerns if the district were to move to year round schooling. Mrs. Block said the Perkiomen School District studied the topic, Mr. Schroeder participated, and Mr. Grispon had a copy of the report. Mrs. Block said she didn't think parents would support the concept, the recently approved early bird contract for teachers doesn't address the issue, and the Leave No Child Behind Act stipulates no state funding if PSSA scores are low. Mr. Schroeder and Mr. Weber debated whether additional staff would be needed for year round school. Mr. Grispon said 240-day contracts would be necessary and Mr. Schroeder said such contracts were not possible. Fifteen percent more staff would have to be hired to implement year round school, said Mr. Schroeder. That is 80 additional people, \$3 million that would offset any savings. The district would lose teachers to other districts, would have difficulty procuring specialized teachers, and the district would have to have climate control in all buildings, said Dr. Coale. She added that she was concerned about the adverse effects on PSSA scores, that the community has not been surveyed, and the district will pay more competitive salaries. Mr. Weber made a motion to direct the administration to come up with a plan for year round school as a 9-3 program in 2004. Mrs. Block seconded the motion. The board voted against year round schooling by 1-7 with Mr. Weber being the only yes vote.

## X. INFORMATION ITEMS

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. The board tied 4-4 with Mr. Grispon, Mr. Schroeder, Mrs. Block, and Mr. Weber voting no.

A. The board tabled **selecting an architect** and **build a new elementary school on the Winnies site** in Limerick township. District administration is requesting approval to move forward immediately.

# XI. NEW BUSINESS

#### PERSONNEL

Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Items A and B. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- A. The board approved of the **maternity leave** for **Allison Reichwein**, Technology Teacher at the High School, effective tentatively May 26, 2002.
- B. The board approved of a **Registered School Nurse** for the **ESY program** to be held July 1 to August 8, 2002 Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (with the exception of July 4, 2002 that day will be made up on July 12, 2002). The nurse will administer medications and deal with medical issues as they arise at Brooke, Limerick, Intermediate and Middle Schools for approximately 40 students. Compensation will be set at \$20 per hour.

## **FINANCE**

Mr. Grispon asked why the district was rejecting the bids. They don't conform, said the solicitor. Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approve 8-0.

A. The board approved that all bids for the **data, phone, and CATV wiring for the two Bechtel site buildings be rejected** and that the project be re-bid. Such rejection is permitted by the Bid Specifications

Mrs. Block asked about the change in scope in Item B. The solicitor said there has been controversy with the bidders and Mr. Spohn would tighten up the specs. Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Item Bs – E. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- B. The board approved changing the data, phone, and CATV wiring for the two Bechtel site buildings scope of work and to go out for **rebid**.
- C. The board approved of the following bid awards for the 2002-2003 school year:

<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>SUPPLIES</b>
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School Specialty, Inc.	\$ 2,420.24
Kurtz Brothers	\$10,455.91
National Art & School	\$10,816.35
Office Basics Inc.	\$12,617.10
Standard Stationery	\$ 9,430.14
TOTAL	\$45,739.74

#### PAPER SUPPLIES

Becker's School Supplies	\$10,858.82
Kurtz Brothers	\$13,049.24
TOTAL	\$23,908.06

In addition to the bid awards listed above, the District participated in the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Bid for duplicating paper. The bid results are as follows:

# **DUPLICATING PAPER**

Canon Business Solutions	\$49,737.74
Central Lewmar	\$ 126.25
Paper Mart	\$13,571.98
Unisource	\$ 569.25
TOTAL	\$64,005.22

- D. The board approved seeking bids for **Publications** (Newsletter, Calendars and Handbooks) for the 2002-2003 school year.
- E. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of **MAY**, in connection with the **SERIES A 2001 G.O.B.:**

## 1. UPPER PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

R.M. Shoemaker Co.	Applic. #5- General Contractor	\$ 1,257,531.00
	TOTAL	\$ 1,257,531.00

# **PROPERTY**

Mr. Weber announced a change to Items A and B. Both items refer to both the High School and Brooke Elementary. Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items A and B. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- A. The board approved the **rejection of all bids for the duct cleaning** for both the High School and Brooke Elementary School due to the fact that it was over the budgeted amount.
- B. The board approved to **rebid duct cleaning** for both the High School and Brooke Elementary School.

## XII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was executive session this evening to discuss acquisition of real estate. Mr. Weber added that the board would meet in executive session to discuss a legal issue.

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

# Frank Gardino, Upper Providence

Asked if the board, in its selection of an architect for the Winnies site, considered taking drawings from the present elementary school construction and adapt a plan from that one. Yes said Dr. Coale. Sometimes the site and positions and ADA requirements require changes. The Upper Providence school is built on the Brooke model, she added. It would not be difficult to combine the two for the Winnies site, she added.

# **Kathleen McCoy Upper Providence**

Said she had a packet with petitions mailed by Mr. Riker of Phoenixville and is active in the Phantoms Parent Association. Said she is opposed to having the traditional Thanksgiving game changed to Wednesday evening. Says people she spoke with are not happy about it and older people are unhappy about it.

Mr. Schroeder said he has spoke in favor of the traditional football game. The overwhelming silent majority favored maintaining the tradition of the Thanksgiving game. He cited older people having difficulty coming to a chilly night game and young people having trouble driving on icy roads. He said someone should poll the community before making a change. Mr. Grispon said the athletic director wanted to try this. Mrs. Stokes said she supported a Thursday morning game. Mr. Masciandaro said if policy governance would have the administration make decisions like this.

Mrs. Stokes asked why the architect selection item for the Winnie's site did not pass. Debate broke out on architect interviews versus selection. Mr. Weber asked whether those voting no would change their vote. No one volunteered.

## MOTION TO CONDUCT ARCHITECT INTERVIEWS

Mr. Pettit made a motion to conduct interviews of architects for the purpose of ultimately selecting one. Mrs. Stokes seconded the motion. Mrs. Block added an amendment to include interviewing the architects in relation to the middle school as well. Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Mr. Weber called for public comment. There was none.

The board voted 7-1 with Mr. Weber voting no on the amendment. Next the board voted on the amended motion to interview the five architects with reference to both the new elementary school and the middle school renovation. The board voted 7-1 in favor of the motion with Mr. Weber voting no.

# **BUILDING REPORTS (enclosed)**

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. The board adjourned at 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael V. Masciandaro Secretary of the Board

Pat Dillon Recording Clerk