

On May 23, 2011 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:42 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. DiBello announced that the school district will be holding a meet-and-greet session with the incoming Superintendent, Dr. David Goodin, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Upper Providence Elementary School on Thursday, May 26th. Mr. DiBello informed the public that the Board met in an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters prior to the start of the meeting.

I. PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Hurda stated that it is always a pleasure to be able to recognize and honor both students and parents who are committed to this district and represent us in such an outstanding way.

Mrs. Connie Willauer introduced Ashraya Ananthanayanan saying this ten year old girl spends her weekends participating in fundraisers to benefit any living being in need of help. Mrs. Willauer commented that recently Ashraya has written a book entitled "Ring of Hope". Mrs. Willauer stated that the book is based on the rescue of a turtle and the proceeds will go to help a little school in India which provides free education to some of the most underprivileged children in that society.

Ashraya thanked her parents, teachers and her school for bringing out the best in her and teaching her the fine values of life. Ashraya gave special thanks to Mrs. Willauer for giving her the confidence to think outside of the box and helped bring her creativity out into full bloom. Ashraya explained the concept behind her book. Ashraya again expressed her heartfelt thanks to all her teachers for making her what she is today.

Dr. Hurda commented that Ashraya makes us very, very proud. Dr. Hurda marveled at the poise and confidence displayed by Ashraya as well as the ability to write a book and have it published. Dr. Hurda stated that Ashraya is a wonderful representative of the school district.

- A. Recognition of **Ashraya Ananthanayanan**, Grade 5, on the publication of her first book entitled, "Ring of Hope".

Yvonne O'Dea introduced Jimmy Brittain, Kayla Dwyer and Jordan Popky and presented them with resolutions in recognition of their accomplishments at the Pennsylvania Music Educators All State Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble competitions.

- B. Presentation of **Resolution #2011-16** honoring **James Brittain** for successfully auditioning and participating in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All-State Concert Band in Hershey, PA.
- C. Presentation of **Resolution #2011-17** honoring **Kayla Dwyer** for successfully auditioning and participating in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All-State Jazz Ensemble in Hershey, PA.
- D. Presentation of **Resolution #2011-18** honoring **Jordan Popky** for successfully auditioning and participating in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All-State Jazz Ensemble in Hershey, PA.

Dr. Hurda stated that seven years ago a group of dedicated parents came to her to discuss a vision of creating a post prom party which would engage all of the students from Spring-Ford High School and extend out into the community. Dr. Hurda reported that from that grandiose vision the first post prom party was held and every year it gets bigger and better.

Dr. Hurda stated that the parents involved in the SNAP Committee do all this work for nothing more than the safety of our students. Dr. Hurda presented the SNAP Committee representatives with a resolution in honor of their efforts in creating the post prom party.

Barbara Ann Sharon thanked Dr. Hurda and the Board for the recognition. She spoke about the beginnings of the SNAP Committee. Ms. Sharon thanked the parents, committee members, students, Board Members and the entire community who helped make the successful event happen.

Dr. Hurda stated that her greatest wish is that this wonderful tradition continues. She thanked everyone involved for the number of hours spent on fundraising activities and all of the thinking outside of the box that has occurred. Dr. Hurda said she appreciates everyone's efforts.

- E. Recognition of the **SNAP Committee** for their efforts in creating a safe and successful post prom party for the students at Spring-Ford Area High School.

II. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no questions or comments.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item A and Mrs. Williams seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved the March 28, 2011 Board Meeting minutes.

IV. PERSONNEL

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

A. Resignations:

1. **William Franz**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Custodian, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 24, 2011.
2. **Janice Straubel**, Evans Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, effective with the last teacher day, June 16, 2011.
3. **Tina Weigner**, 9TH Grade Center; Learning Support Teacher, for the purpose of retirement, effective with the last teacher day, June 16, 2011.
4. **Mariel Zummo**, Brooke Elementary School; Special Education Teacher, effective with the last teacher day, June 16, 2011.

B. Leaves of Absence:

1. **Jennifer Basom**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective August 23, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
2. **Catherine Cabrera**, Oaks Elementary School; Speech Therapist, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective August 23, 2011 through January 28, 2012.
3. **Brigitte Diaz**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective August 23, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
4. **Mary E. Foster**, Oaks Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective May 6, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
5. **Heather Logic**, Royersford Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively September 2, 2011 until the first day of the third marking period of the 2011/2012 school year.
6. **Susan Mehan**, District Office; Administrative Assistant, for an unpaid Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective May 10, 2011.
7. **Kristin Rouyer**, High School; French Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective May 11, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
8. **William H. Rowe, Jr.**, Brooke Elementary School; Custodian, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective May 13, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.

F. Support Staff Substitute:

1. **June Mash** Support

New Support Staff Substitute:

2. **Kristi DePetrillo** Food Service

New Personnel Items**G. Extra-Curricular Contracts**

1. **Bryan W. Capone**, High School; Assistant Lacrosse Coach – Boys, \$3,991

H. The Board approved the following **ESY-Support Staff** to be hired for the **2011 Summer ESY program(s)** that were previously Board approved. Compensation for new employees will be set at \$15.04 - \$16.04 per hour depending on educational degree plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Regular hourly employees will be paid at the current Instructional Assistant hourly rate of \$16.04 - \$17.04 per hour depending on educational degree plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Funding will be from 2011/2012 IDEA funds.

1. **Jennifer Clarke**
2. **Chris Hetrick**
3. **Jamie Jacobs**
4. **Casey Murphy**
5. **Sharon Ritson**
6. **Terri Steffanelli**

V. FINANCE

Mr. Pettit asked that Item H1 be separated.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items A-G and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

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

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

1. SENIOR HIGH- ALTERATION & ADDITIONS

Applied Video Tech. Inc.	Equipment-TV Studio	\$	6,930.00
El Associates	Professional Services	\$	2,535.00
Lafayette Welding Inc.	Lower Score Board	\$	500.00
*Applied Video Tech. Inc.	Equipment-TV Studio	\$	11,967.00
*Daktronics	Replacement Scoreboards (2)	\$	9,895.00
*Goshen Mechanical Inc.	Applic #22- HVAC Contractor	\$	188,111.30
*Johnstone Supply	A/C Security/Camera Room	\$	<u>1,565.36</u>
	TOTAL	\$	221,503.66

2. ROYERSFORD ELEMENTARY- CHILLER PROJECT

Colonial Electric Supply	Misc. Supplies-Chiller	\$	1,038.68
Lafayette Welding Inc.	Cranes/Manpower-Install Chiller	\$	5,200.00

Trane U.S. Inc.	Chiller & Damper Kit (3 Inv.)	\$ 124,435.00
United Refrigeration Inc.	Misc. Supplies–Chiller Install. (5 Inv.)	\$ 8,804.51
US Supply Co. Inc.	Misc. Supplies-Chiller Install (2 Inv.)	\$ 120.55
*Reading Foundry Supply	Misc. Supplies-Chiller Install. (2 Inv.)	\$ 229.24
*Irvin Tyson & Son Inc.	Misc. Supplies-Chiller Install.	\$ 43.29
*US Supply Co. Inc.	Misc. Supplies-Chiller Install. (4 Inv.)	\$ 278.94
*United Refrigeration Inc.	Misc. Supplies- Return Credit (3 Inv.)	\$ -1,172.82
	TOTAL	\$ 138,977.39

3. **BROOKE ELEMENTARY – BOILER REPLACEMENT**

Elmer Shultz Services	Boiler Replacement-Kitchen	\$ 5,961.64
	TOTAL	\$ 5,961.64

B. 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.

C. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

April

Check No. 141506 – 141580 \$ 164,702.94

May

Check No. 141581 – 141704 \$1,024,320.88

2. Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting

Check No. 141705 – 141719 \$ 4,884.55

Check No. 141828 – 141874 \$ 251,276.78

3. Board Checks held for approval

Check No. 141720 – 141827 \$ 151,080.69

4. Athletic Fund

April

Check No. 303391 – 303598 \$ 31,175.08

D. The Board approved the following bid awards for Custodial Supplies & Equipment, District-wide, for the 2011-2012 school year. Bids were due April 5, 2011. The bid awards are as follows:

AGF Company	\$ 5,921.55
Allegheny Supply	\$ 1,055.60
Beltex Co., Inc.	\$ 871.50
Central Poly Corp.	\$ 13,945.40
Franklin Chemical & Equip. Co.	\$ 1,736.26

Genesis II, Inc.	\$ 185.12
Hillyard – Delaware Valley	\$ 92,422.59
Indco Inc.	\$ 5,043.36
Philip Rosenau Co., Inc.	\$ 27,667.62
Pyramid	\$ 3,411.69
Singer Equipment Co. Inc.	\$ 30,470.93
Zimmerman Sanitary Supply Inc.	\$ 25,302.50
TOTAL	\$208,034.12

- E. The Board approved the Western Montgomery County Career and Technical Center 2011-2012 Budget in the amount of \$4,625,876.00. Spring-Ford's share of the cost is \$1,185,398 or a decrease of \$69,951 (5.55%) from last year's budget.
- F. The Board approved continuing with the legal services, for the 2011-2012 school year, of Fox Rothschild LLP at an annual retainer of \$23,800.00 charged on a quarterly basis in equal installments of \$5,950.00. Items not covered under the school retainer are subject to a blended hourly rate of \$185.00 per hour or established rates as listed under Miscellaneous Matters and Rates outlined in Fox Rothschild's agreement. This contract does not reflect any increase over Fox Rothschild's 2010-2011 contract.
- G. The Board approved an independent contract with Communication Solutions for the 2011-2012 school year in the amount of \$35,100.00 for retained services. This contract does not reflect any increase over Communication Solutions' 2010-2011 contract.

Mr. DiBello informed the public that the vote on Item H1 will take place at the end of Finance.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items H2–H16 and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

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

2. **Magic By Taddo, LLC - Todd Kupper – Huntingdon Valley, PA.** Provide a total of six (6) assemblies entitled "The Magic of Nutrition" at Brooke Elementary School (2), Oaks Elementary School (2) and Spring City Elementary School (2). Funding will be paid from the 2010-2011 Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation Grant (\$2,050.00) and the Spring City Home and School Association (\$250.00) for a total not to exceed two thousand three hundred dollars (\$2,300.00).
3. **Spinning Bees Frisbee Show – Salem, West Virginia.** Provide two (2) assemblies at Upper Providence Elementary School. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School Association and shall not exceed five hundred fifty dollars (\$550.00).
4. **Give and Take Jugglers – David Giles – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide two (2) assemblies at Upper Providence Elementary School. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School Association and shall not exceed eight hundred fifty-five dollars (\$855.00).
5. **Marion Blumenthal Lazan – Hewlett, NY.** Provide two (2) assemblies, one for the 5/6 Grade Center and one for the 7th Grade Center entitled "Four Perfect Pebbles – My Holocaust Story – A Message of Perseverance, Determination, Faith and Hope". Funding will be paid from the 5/6 Grade Center Assembly Account (\$681.00) and the

- 7th Grade Center Assembly Account (\$681.00) for a total not to exceed one thousand three hundred sixty-two dollars (\$1,362.00).
6. **Caron Treatment Centers – Wernersville, PA.** Provide Student Assistance Program (SAP) Training. Funding will be paid from the 2010-2011 Safe and Drug Free Schools Mini-Grant and shall not exceed five hundred seventy dollars (\$570.00).
 7. **The Vanguard School – Paoli, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for three (3) special needs students as per their IEP's. Services will be provided for twenty-nine (29) days at a rate of six thousand eight hundred seventy dollars (\$6,870.00) per student. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed twenty thousand six hundred ten dollars (\$20,610.00).
 8. **Claire Choutka – Limerick, PA.** Provide Applied Behavior Analysis Observation and Consultation in the school setting for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for six (6) hours at a rate of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from 2010-2011 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00).
 9. **Martin Luther School – Plymouth Meeting, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Services for two (2) special needs students as per their IEP's. Services will be provided for twenty-seven (27) days at a rate of three thousand four hundred dollars (\$3,400.00) per student. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed six thousand eight hundred dollars (\$6,800.00).
 10. **Overbrook School for the Blind – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for eighteen (18) days at a rate of one hundred eighty-five dollars (\$185.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed three thousand three hundred thirty dollars (\$3,330.00).
 11. **Variety Club Camp and Developmental Center – Worcester, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Services for five (5) special needs students as per their IEP's. Services will be provided for six (6) weeks for three (3) students at a cost of ten thousand eight hundred seventy-five dollars (\$10,875.00), eight (8) weeks for one (1) student at a cost of four thousand eight hundred seventy-five dollars (\$4,875.00) and eight (8) weeks of vocational programming for one (1) student at a cost of two thousand six hundred dollars (\$2,600.00). Variety Club will provide a one to one assistant for one (1) student at a cost of two thousand seven hundred dollars (\$2,700.00), and fifty-nine (59) total sessions of related services (34 speech and language, 19 occupational therapy, 6 physical therapy) at a cost of five thousand three hundred ten dollars (\$5,310.00). Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed a total cost for all Extended School Year Services of twenty-six thousand three hundred sixty dollars (\$26,360.00).
 12. **Camphill Special School – Glenmoore, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Educational Services will be provided for twenty (20) days at a rate of one hundred ninety-six dollars and eleven cents (\$196.11) per day and twenty-eight (28) days of residential services at a rate of one hundred seventeen dollars and thirty-nine cents (\$117.39) per day. Funding will be paid from the

2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed seven thousand two hundred nine dollars and twelve cents (\$7,209.12).

13. **Ken-Crest Services – Plymouth Meeting , PA.** Provide a transition Extended School Year Workshop Experience for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for sixteen (16) days at a rate of one hundred eight dollars (\$108.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed one thousand seven hundred twenty-eight dollars (\$1,728.00).
14. **The Devereaux Foundation – Downingtown, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Services for four (4) special needs students as per their IEP's. Services will be provided from July 5, 2011 to August 26, 2011. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed twenty-eight thousand one hundred eighty dollars (\$28,180.00).

New Independent Contracts

15. **Gerald E. Berger – Telford, PA.** Provide consulting services in the area of collective bargaining cost projections. Services will be provided at a rate of six hundred dollars (\$600.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2010-2011 General Fund: Human Resources-Other Professional Services and shall not exceed seven thousand two hundred dollars (\$7,200.00).
16. **Bon Homie Daily Living Center – Limerick, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for twelve (12) days at a rate of fifty-seven dollars (\$57.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed six hundred eighty-four dollars (\$684.00).

New Finance

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items L-I and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-1.

- I. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market – April 2011
- PSDLAF – April 2011
- PSDMAX – April 2011
- Checking Account – April 2011
- PLGIT Account – April 2011
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule - April 2011
- Payroll Account – April 2011
- Tax Account – April 2011

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – April 2011
- 7th Grade Activity – April 2011
- 8th Grade Activity – April 2011
- High School Activity – April 2011
- Athletic Account – April 2011

- A. The Board approved the commitment of funds not to exceed \$15,000 to fund the summer of 2011 technology projects to be completed by District Support Technicians. Project activities include website development, computer software updates, and administrative training. Funding will be split between the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 Technology Budgets
- B. The Board approved the purchase and installation of a new virtualized server solution at a cost of \$88,362. The new virtualized server solution will replace existing server hardware that is no longer under warranty support. This recommendation includes hardware and software purchases in the amount of \$77,762 to be acquired under the Costars-3 Information Technology Hardware Contract. Additionally, installation services will be acquired from several vendors to support the project at a cost of \$10,600. Funds are budgeted for the purchases in the 2010-2011 Technology Budget.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve items D-E and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- D. The Board approved the following **new textbooks** for 2011-2012. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Curriculum Budget and shall not exceed \$37,966.00.

<u>Course</u>	<u>Textbook</u>	<u>Publisher</u>
1. Algebra I	<i>Algebra Connections</i> Version 3.1 w/6yr. eBook License	College Preparatory Mathematics CPM Educational Program (2006)

- E. The Board approved proceeding with the implementation of a Student Activity Fee for students participating in athletics, marching band, and chorus, beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, at a rate of \$100 per student participant per year in grades 9-12 and \$75 per student participant per year in grades 7-8. Final details of the Student Activity Fee Program will be presented at the June Board meeting.

Mr. Pettit commented that the district is saving a significant amount of money on the reduction from last year's costs for the licensing of some of our software programs. Mr. Pettit commended Mr. DiBello for recognizing this and working closely with the Technology Department. Mr. Pettit stated that Mr. Reynolds also did an excellent job of getting this into play. He thanked both Mr. DiBello and Mr. Reynolds.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Item C and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- C. The Board approved the Microsoft Server Product Purchasing Group Participation Agreement. This agreement between the District and the Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit (IU13) provides the opportunity to purchase certain Microsoft server platform software products, under a five (5) year commitment, as part of a joint purchasing group of public school entities facilitated by IU13. Under this agreement, the District will issue a purchase order for Microsoft software licensing not to exceed \$60,000.00. This new licensing cost is a significant reduction from last year when the cost of software licensing from Microsoft exceeded \$145,000. Funds are budgeted for this purchase in the 2010-2011 Technology Budget.

VII. PROPERTY

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

A. The Board approved re-awarding the Turf Maintenance Mowing and Trimming bid for 2011-2012 to Blackforest Landscaping, the next responsible bidder, in the amount of one thousand two hundred twenty-five dollars (\$1,225.00) per mowing. The contractor previously approved at the January 2011 Board meeting has gone out of business. Funding will come from the 2011-2012 Maintenance Budget.

B. The Board approved awarding the contract for filters to Oaks Industrial Supply as follows:

Stock Size Filters	\$11,302.62
Custom Size Filters	\$ 6,584.36

Funding will come from the 2011-2012 General Fund – Maintenance Budget and shall not exceed seventeen thousand eight hundred eighty-six dollars and ninety-eight cents (\$17,886.98).

Mr. DiBello announced that there was an addition to the agenda which would be Property, Item C. The motion had been held off of the agenda for obvious reasons. He read the motion:

C. Board approval is requested, as per Policy 702.1 – NAMING OF SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY(IES), for the dedication and naming of the Spring-Ford High School 10-12 Grade Center New Large Group Instruction Room as the **Hurda Learning Center**.

Mr. Shafer made a motion to approve Item C and Mrs. Williams seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

C. The Board approved , as per Policy 702.1 – NAMING OF SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY(IES), the dedication and naming of the Spring-Ford High School 10-12 Grade Center New Large Group Instruction Room as the **Hurda Learning Center**.

Mr. DiBello explained that when Dr. Hurda announced that she was going to be retiring the district felt that they wanted to do something in remembrance of all of her dedication and service to the district. Collectively the Board and Mr. Nugent felt that the new large group instruction learning room would be a great room to name the Hurda Learning Center so that it will be here for many, many years. Mr. DiBello spoke about the talented 10th grade student who painted a portrait of Dr. Hurda which is hanging on the wall just outside the learning center. Mr. DiBello stated that the artwork is incredible and urged everyone to stop by and see the painting.

VIII. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-D and Mrs. Williams seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

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

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

HIGH SCHOOL

- A. **Bruce Brobst**, Teacher, to attend “*Healthy Bodies..Healthy Minds – Summer Health and PE Conference*” at Boyertown Area High School on June 28, 2011. The total cost for this conference is \$50.00 for registration from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- B. **Linda Crane**, Teacher, to attend “*AP Studio Art – Collegeboard AP Summer Institute*” at Cape Henlopen High School in Lewes, Delaware from July 26 through July 29, 2011. The total cost of this summer conference is \$950.00 for registration from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

8TH GRADE CENTER

- C. **Cynthia Cooper**, Guidance Counselor, to attend “*Recognizing, Responding & Reporting – What Every Professional Should Know About Child Abuse*” at the Temonos Retreat Center in West Chester, PA on May 13, 2011. There is no cost to the district for this conference. No substitute is needed.

5TH/6TH GRADE CENTER

- D. **Jenifer Smith**, Speech Clinician, to attend “*Assistive Technology Resource Training*” at the Upper Moreland Intermediate School on May 17, 2011. There is no cost to the district for this training. No substitute is needed.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

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

- A. The Board approved the appointment of **Timothy Anspach** to the office of the Board Treasurer of the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Directors for a term of one (1) year, effective July 1, 2011
- B. The Board approved the admission of **Guilherme Ludwig AiresValenga Krindges**, a foreign exchange student, for the 2011-2012 school year. Guilherme is from Francisco Beltrão, Paraná, Brazil and is sponsored by the Rotary International Youth Exchange. Rotary International has a long-standing relationship with the Spring-Ford Area School District, placing students annually.
- C. The Board approved the admission of **Juan A. Vargas-Zuñiga**, a foreign exchange student, for the 2011-2012 school year. Juan is from Madrid, Spain and is sponsored by ASSE International Student Exchange Programs.

New Other Business

- D. The following policy is submitted as a first reading:
 1. Policy #122.1 – PROGRAMS: Student Activity Fee

X. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Davis expressed concern on the resolutions that Dr. Donahue worked so hard on regarding the reorganization. Mr. Davis stated we had been promised an answer in a week or two and his concern was that we had not yet heard back from PDE. Mr. Davis informed the Board that Dr. Donahue had written a letter to PDE that strongly emphasizes that the district needs to have an answer one way or another.

XI. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

There were no questions or comments.

Mr. DiBello commented that in late March the district had a letter campaign that was sent to GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) regarding the reassessment appeal and the dollars that the district would be responsible for paying back. Mr. DiBello stated that the district did receive a response back from GSK. Mr. DiBello commented that it was reported on the Limerick Patch website that GSK had indicated that they would be happy to talk to the district but when Mr. Ciresi reached out to them he was told that they cannot talk to us and we should be talking with their legal folks. Mr. DiBello read the response which the district received from GSK which said "I am writing in response to your letter addressed to Andrew Witty dated March 28, 2011. Thank you for your letter GlaxoSmithKline shares your commitment to making a difference in the lives of our children in the Philadelphia region. We certainly appreciate the financial challenges many are facing in this economy. GSK is proud to employ more than 5,000 people in the Philadelphia region including approximately 4000 in Montgomery County and pleased to be an active member of the community providing both financial contributions and educational programs in the area. We have been and will continue to be a major contributor to the local tax base. However, just as an individual has a right to fair tax assessment for his home the company is pursuing a fair tax assessment that reflects the market value for its property in Upper Providence Township. GSK has been and continues to be willing to discuss a resolution that represents a fair tax assessment for 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and going forward. As this matter is ongoing litigation we ask that all future communication occur through each party's respective counsel." Mr. DiBello stated that the Board just wanted to let the public know that this is the response we have received and we will continue to try and move forward with resolving this issue which has been presented to the school district going on four years. Mr. DiBello commented that hopefully we will have some type of successful resolution.

Mr. Shafer urged the parents and community who have contacted GSK to do so again because clearly what he read was blah, blah, blah...talk to our lawyers....blah, blah, blah. Mr. Shafer asked that the community contact GSK and let them know how important our school district is.

Mr. Pettit said he was shocked to find out that we are not part of the Philadelphia region since they are so interested in protecting the students. Mr. Pettit commented that it should be made know that the fact they are going from 2008 on if our assessment is reduced dramatically we not only will not be getting that income for future years but we will have to repay it for the past 4 years. Mr. Pettit stated that he agrees with Mr. Shafer that the community should be reaching out to GSK and let them know that they should be stepping up to the plate and show some interest for our kids here and not just the City of Philadelphia where they donated \$5 million.

Mr. DiBello commented that between what we will have to pay back and what the next three or four years would equate to you are probably talking close to \$10 million. Mr. Davis

confirmed that Mr. DiBello's number was not far off. Mr. DiBello stated that it is unfortunate when you hear the talk in the community and they are frustrated with the Board and the decisions that they have been forced to make as they go through the budget process. Mr. DiBello commented that the Board sitting there have been put in this situation and are only reacting to the situation they have been put in.

Mr. Shafer stated that what he read in the letter is that they care about us but yet we are getting stung pretty hard here. Mr. Shafer encouraged everyone to please remind GSK that if they care so much they should not reassess up to \$10 million and take it away from the children.

Mark Dehnert reported that he had called them twice in the last three weeks and he does not know if that letter came as a response to him calling them to find out where they are on this situation. Mr. Dehnert stated that the disappointing part is that they do not want to engage in any dialogue with the Board as they would rather deal with their attorney and really hide behind this instead of trying to negotiate in a good faith effort with the Board and the appropriate people who can make decisions at GlaxoSmithKline.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Fern
Board Secretary