

On May 24, 2004, the board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:51 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

- Region I: Michael V. Masciandro and Raymond Rocchio, Jr.
- Region II: Ammon Morgan, Janet A. Stokes, and Donna L. Williams
- Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi, Richard Schroeder, and Ed Cummins
- Presiding Officer: Bernard F. Pettit
- Solicitor: Marc Davis, Esq.

I. District Goals

Mike Masciandro asked Dr. Coale to present a quick summary of the graduation data she presented last week. Dr. Coale said she gave the percentage of graduates going to post secondary schools. Jim Young will develop a list of the Ivy League universities and top universities. She offered to have that report in a week or two. Dr. Coale also said she would give board members a report on the total base level for 2003 and 2004. SAT components won't be included but other components would be included in a couple of weeks. Mr. Schroeder requested data on comparisons between Spring-Ford and other districts in Montgomery County. Mr. Masciandro requested a couple of pages as a report. Mr. Schroeder requested a comprehensive report at the end of June or August meeting. Dr. Coale suggested beginning of August. Mr. Masciandro agreed to having 2003/04 to the degree possible in June and a comprehensive report in August. Dr. Coale then offered to move forward to have 2003 numbers definitely for the June work session and what is possible of 2004.

II. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Barbara Hagan, Limerick Township
Commented on the board meeting starting late. Mr. Pettit said there was an executive session and apologized for the late start.

III. PRESENTATION

- A. Dr. Genevieve D. Coale, superintendent of schools, made a presentation about the new 5-6-7 school.

Mark Brittingham asked how extracurricular activities would be handled. Dr. Coale said extracurricular and sports would be available in each building to avoid having students travel from building to building.

Mr. Pettit announced that there was an executive session before the board meeting and it was on litigation.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Items A and B. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of the April 19, 2004 work session minutes.
- B. The board approved of the April 26, 2004 board meeting minutes.

V. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Extracurricular Committee – Mr. Cummins reported that the committee did not meet. The committee is compiling data regarding safety in accordance to the district goals.

Contract Grievance Committee – Mr. Schroeder said there was no meeting.

Community Relations Committee – Mr. Ciresi said the committee discussed alternative funding and grants. There were suggestions to set up a community-based alternative funding / grants committee. The committee is looking for opportunities in schools and come up with programs to underwrite. Mr. Ciresi went to the Educational Foundation to request seed money of \$10,000 to bring in a grant writer. The Educational Foundation agreed to give \$5,000 and board would give \$5,000 to hire a grant writer. The Alumni Association appointed an acting president - Barry Shafer. Dr. Coale said there is enough money to send 3600 to 4000 letters to begin the Alumni Association. The committee requested having the first alumni meeting in June. Dr. Coale said she had funds of \$409 for postage and \$2,707 for startup costs. Said she could get 7,000 to 10,000 for 2,200 or 2,500 to move forward and requested authorization to move forward. Mr. Schroeder asked the purpose of the association. Mr. Ciresi said an alumni association is a source of knowledge and income to underwrite a project on schools and bring alumni back into the system. Dr. Coale said that she and Mr. Ciresi learned that alumni bring recurring funds for projects based on a meeting and conversations with a representative of a Brooklawn, NJ school district. Other items that could be alumni-sponsored projects include a field house, large ram sculpture, and environmental projects. Mr. Pettit expressed support. Mr. Pettit asked for consensus to move forward and said the committee can move forward with the project. Mr. Ciresi said a name was needed for the district newsletter. One suggestion was to hold a contest and charge a dime or quarter for name submission. Mr. Ciresi said Mr. Morgan had showed placemats from Boyertown that showed PSSA scores and budget information. Dr. Coale said Spring-Ford had created seven versions of a placemat. She asked for consensus to have them for the 2004-05 school year and proposed bringing back cost information to the board. Mr. Pettit asked if the committee was okay with it and Mr. Ciresi and Mr. Morgan agreed.

Board Curriculum Committee – Mr. Rocchio said the committee met on April 7 and discussed alternative education and the feasibility of having an inhouse program. However, the cost did not justify bringing it inhouse. The committee

discussed the loss of 17 positions over the past year and upgrading the environment that students are in. The committee discussed libraries and asked for data on elementary usage. The committee discussed avoidance of opening school libraries close to community libraries. Well underway. The committee discussed making a budget request for lifelong learning. The administration will research recognizing the accomplishments of schools within the district without demoralizing others. The administration will also present justification on scores in the elementary handbooks. The committee is looking forward to an update on guidance counselors. The graduation data was discussed. There was a focus on math accomplishments.

Finance Committee – Mr. Schroeder said the committee met on May 19th. Cafeteria prices were raised since they hadn't been in a long time. There is consideration of restoring funding for debt service and insurance. A recommendation will come before the board. There was a discussion of the high school track and a recommendation to fund it. Goal #11 was given to the committee.

Property Committee – Mrs. Stokes said the committee met on May 12. One goal is to reduce class size. The committee requested that the administration provide current available classroom space and space for art and LGIs. Bob Feio made a proposal, which goes beyond the scope of the committee and he will make a presentation before the entire board at the June board meeting. The committee discussed cutting utility costs by having uniform thermostat settings. The committee discussed pros and cons of flat and sloped roofs. There is a considerable cost saving to redo it as a flat roof and administration will come back with further information. The Limerick home and school association raised money for playground equipment. The Township requires an application and the committee is working on making it as expeditiously as possible. The district received the permit for parking improvements for Washington Street parking in Royersford. There is a recommendation to lease then purchase a backhoe and mower. Funding is available through the state. The administration will study a plan for Faraway Farms.

Healthy Choices Committee – Dr. Hurda said the committee met in early May and there were over 30 people at the meeting. Physical education and nutrition were looked at. There are four proposals. One idea is educating parents about healthy choices, limiting snacks in the cafeteria and having parents to access what children are buying in the cafeteria. The committee discussed increasing physical activity in the district and prioritizing phys ed as an important class by finding ways for students not to miss it. Another proposal was to eliminate food as a reward by teachers. The committee is looking for healthier choices in the a la carte line. The committee wants to continue next year and meet quarterly.

Technology Committee – Mr. Masciandaro said he had no report.

Transportation Committee – The committee is disbanding unless a special meeting is called.

WCTS -- Mr. Schroeder said the committee discussed a cooperative agreement between WCTS and Montgomery County Community College to have a chef

apprenticeship program and an adult evening auto tech program. Additional funds have been placed in the budget and support programs to address facilities. Mr. Schroeder read the list of Spring-Ford students who were students of the quarter: Auto Technology II-Josh Grisdale, SF Senior; Cosmetology II-Jennifer Whitenight, SF Senior; Early Childhood Education-Nicole Stiefel, SF Senior; Health Occupations-Stacie Henning, SF Junior; HVAC-Steve Rufibach, SF Senior; Horticulture-Josh Cox, SF Senior; Building Project-William Byerly, SF Senior; Metal Technology-Eric Ziegler, SF Junior; Protective Services-Tara Schollenberger, SF Senior; T-Plus (Ms. Steinmetz)-Matthew Marvel, SF Senior; T-Plus (Ms. Strunk)-Josh Mungin, SF Junior; and School-to-Work (Mrs. Reese)-Jeremy Turner, SF Senior

MCIU Legislative Committee – There was no meeting this month reported Mr. Ciresi. The committee has discussed a proposal to fix up abandoned homes and turn them over to low income families.

MCIU Board – Mr. Cummins reported that the board was going to make a hire a staff member at a salary of of \$150,000.

American Legion – Mr. Cummins said the Legion is putting a sign up for Rams stadium at no expense to the school district. The board discussed the content of the sign: 2/3 of it says Rams Stadium and 1/3 says Home of the Spring City American Legion with a Red Sox logo. A local company donated it, will put it up, and will do the lighting said Mr. Cummins. There is no permit issue since the sign faces the parking lot, the district’s own facility. Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve the sign. Mr. Pettit asked for public comment. There was none. The board voted 9-0 to accept the sign. Dr. Coale acknowledged that it is a gift. Mr. Pettit expressed appreciation to the American Legion.

Pennsylvania Department of Education Liaison – Mr. Schroeder said there was no report.

Student Representative Report – New student representative, Danielle Quinn said there was no report.

Extracurricular	Ed Cummins	1 st Thurs. 7 p.m.
Ad Hoc	Bern Pettit	As needed
Contract-Grievance	Richard Schroeder	As needed
Community Relations	Joe Ciresi	1 st Wed. 7 p.m.
Curriculum/SE	Ray Rocchio, Jr.	1 st Tues., 7 p.m.
Finance	Mike Masciandaro	2 nd Thurs., 7 p.m.
Policy	Bern Pettit	2 nd Mon., 7 p.m.
Property	Janet Stokes	2 nd Wed., 7 p.m.
Technology	Mike Masciandaro	2 nd Tues., 7 p.m.
Transportation	Mike Masciandaro	1 st Wed., 7 p.m.
WCTS	Schroeder, Ciresi Stokes	1 st Mon., 7:30 p.m.
MCIU-Legislative	Joe Ciresi Richard Schroeder, Alternate	3 rd Wed., 7:30 p.m.
MCIU Board	Ed Cummins (Ammon Morgan Jr. Alternate)	4 th Wed., 7:45 p.m.

Community 50th Year Jointure
 Spring-Ford Westmont Educational Consortium
 Morgan, Pettit, Schroeder
 American Legion Report Ed Cummins
 Liaison for PDE Rick Schroeder
 Student Representative Report Danielle Quinn

May 19, 7 p.m.

PSBA REPORT.....Raymond J. Rocchio, Jr.

The U.S. Senate with a vote of 95-3 passed S. 1248, the reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. A bipartisan amendment for mandatory full funding of IDEA was considered yesterday but fell six votes short of passing. The proposal would have amended Part B of IDEA to provide mandatory increases of \$2.2 billion per year for the next six years, when full funding would be achieved. The amendment was defeated by a vote of 56-41 nays; 60 votes were necessary for approval. Pennsylvania Senator Arlen Specter voted in favor of the amendment; Senator Rick Santorum did not vote. Mr. Rocchio added that the bill heads to the House for concurrence. (End of report)

VI. PERSONNEL

Mr. Mascinadaro made a motion to approve Items A-I. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of the following **resignations**:
 - 1. **Susan Merrill**, Gifted Support Teacher at the High School, effective with the last day of school, June 15, 2004.
 - 2. **Adriana Segaline**, 7th Grade Learning Support Teacher at the Middle School, effective with the last day of school, June 15, 2004.
- B. The board approved the following **leaves of absence**:
 - 1. **Jessica M. Craig**, 6th grade Reading/Language Arts/Social Studies Teacher at the Intermediate School for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective for the 1st marking period of the 2004/2005 school year.
 - 2. **Patricia Carfagno**, Instructional Assistant at the Middle School for an Uncompensated Leave of Absence for the 1st semester of the 2004/2005 school year.
 - 3. **Teresa Hudson**, Instructional Assistant for Technology at Brooke Elementary School for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective April 26, 2004.
 - 4. **Donna A. Militano**, Instructional Assistant for Technology at Upper Providence Elementary School for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective May 10, 2004.
 - 5. **Robert Robinson**, Custodian at the Middle School for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective May 7, 2004.

- C. The board approved the following **independent contract(s)**:
1. **Jack Chambers**, Chester Springs, PA, to present an interaction presentation to the 4th grade class at Oaks Elementary School on June 7, 2004 entitled "4th Grade "Craze Olimpiks". The costs of the program will not exceed \$300. Funding will be from the Oaks PTA.
 2. **Kathy Barnes-Green**, 4223 Elm Court, Colledgeville, PA to provide 400 hours of Discrete Trial Training in the home of a special needs student as per the IEP. The total cost of this program, to take place from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005, is \$8,400 which is included in the Special Education Budget for 2004-2005.
 3. **Lapreziosa Occupational Therapist Services**, 965 Malvern Drive, Pottstown, PA for provision of Occupational Therapy for the 2004 Extended School Year Program for students who receive special education services as per their IEP. The Contractor will provide direct intervention and consultation, evaluation and home visitations, and indirect services (meetings, paperwork, and progress reports) for a total of 51 students receiving ESY services. The total cost of the contract will not exceed \$14,283. The contract will be paid from funds budgeted in the 2003-2004 Special Education Budget for Extended School Year Services.
 4. **Todd Wagner**, Aldan, PA to provide a workshop for foreign language teachers to include the topics of **reaching national standards** and **vertical teaming** as part of the May 28, 2004 in-service program. The cost of this program will not exceed \$50.00 and will be paid for with funds allocated in the 2003-04 Curriculum & Instruction Budget.
 5. **Glenn Carter**, Eagleville, PA to provide a workshop for physical education teachers with a focus on the **importance of beginning strength training** and **weight management at an early age** as part of the May 28, 2004 in-service program. The cost of the program will not exceed \$50.00 and will be paid for with funds allocated in the 2003-04 Curriculum & Instruction Budget.
 6. **Tempo Music Therapy Services** (Angela Guerriero), West Chester, PA to provide a workshop for music teachers entitled "**Teaching Students with Special Needs**" as part of the May 28, 2004 in-service program. The cost of the program will not exceed \$300.00 and will be paid for with funds allocated in the 2003-04 Curriculum & Instruction Budget.
 7. **Andrea Fishman, Ph.D.**, Assistant Director of PA Writing Project, to provide a workshop entitled "**Teaching in the Domains: Grades 5 – 12**" as part of the May 28, 2004 in-service program. The cost of the program will not exceed \$1200.00 and will be paid for with funds allocated in the 2003-04 Curriculum & Instruction Budget. This workshop is for recently employed teachers who have not been trained in this subject.

8. **PA Writing Project**, West Chester University, West Chester, PA to provide a workshop entitled “**Teaching in the Domains: Grades K – 4**” as part of the May 28, 2004 in-service program. The cost of the program will not exceed \$900.00 and will be paid for with funds allocated in the 2003-04 Curriculum & Instruction Budget. This workshop is for recently employed teachers who have not been trained in this subject.
 9. **Chi Ebert**, Douglassville, PA to provide a workshop in curriculum and art media entitled “**Freestyle Watercolor**” as part of the May 28, 2004 in-service program. The cost of this program will not exceed \$150.00 and will be paid for with funds allocated in the 2003-04 Curriculum & Instruction Budget.
 10. **Linda Beazley**, Pottstown, PA to provide a workshop in curriculum and art media entitled “**Using Art Appreciation in the Classroom**” as part of the May 28, 2004 in-service program. The cost of this program will not exceed \$150.00 and will be paid for with funds allocated in the 2003-04 Curriculum & Instruction Budget.
 11. **Eileen Rosen**, West Chester, PA to provide a workshop in curriculum and art media entitled “**Rendering with Colored Pencil**” as part of the May 28, 2004 in-service program. The cost of this program will not exceed \$150.00 and will be paid for with funds allocated in the 2003-04 Curriculum & Instruction Budget.
 12. **Gregory Bondi**, St. Peters, PA to provide a workshop in curriculum and art media entitled “**Ceramics**” as part of the May 28, 2004 in-service program. The cost of this program will not exceed \$150.00 and will be paid for with funds allocated in the 2003-04 Curriculum & Instruction Budget.
 13. **Progressions Academy**, 301 Cherry Street, Pottstown, PA to provide educational services for two students for a period not to exceed 35 days. Cost of these services would be @\$115.00/day per student, not to exceed \$8,050. These services are retroactive to May 3, 2004 as required per the students’ IEP. The provider has an Independent Contract with the District (vendor #10-44999) and funding will be from the Special Education Budget.
- D. The board approved of the Job Description for **Support Technician** (formerly Instructional Assistant for Technology) (attached).
- E. The board approved of of the **extra-curricular/supplemental contract** at Upper Providence Elementary School:
Janice Straubel, Building Science Coordinator, \$856, Code K
- F. The board approved of the **extra-curricular/supplemental contract** at the Middle School:
1. **Catherine Palladino**, 7/8th Grade Chorus, \$1,450 (prorated), Code I, effective March 26, 2004.

- G. The board approved of the following **extra-curricular/supplemental contract(s)** at the High School:
 - 1. Bradley Murlless, Boys' Intramural Soccer Coach, \$526, Code LB
 - 2. Joel Siwik, Track & Field Volunteer Coach, \$1.00, Code1,
- H. The board approved of the following **professional substitute(s)**:
 - 1. **Dennis M. McCarthy**, Social Studies, Cabrini College.
 - 2. **Sara T. Daley**, Elementary Education, Lock Haven University.
- I. The board approved of the following **support substitute(s)**:
 - 1. **Sara T. Daley**, Instructional Assistant

VII. FINANCE

Mr. Cummins made a motion to approve Item A. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of **MAY**, in connection with the **SERIES G.O.B. 2000**:

1. INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$ 470.00
	TOTAL	\$ 470.00

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Item B. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 8-1 with Mrs. Willaims voting no.

- B. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of **MAY**, in connection with the **SERIES G.O.B. 2002**:

1. WINNIES PROJECT

Bursich Assoc., Inc.	Professional Services	\$ 5,436.35
DLR Group	Professional Services	\$ 42,396.00
Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (7 Inv.)	\$ 4,507.03
Limerick Township	Professional Services	\$ 325.88
	TOTAL	\$ 52,665.26

2. INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

C & M Refrigeration	Hot Dog Roller w/h Sneeze Grd.	\$ 1,030.00
Clark Food Service	2 Ice Machines/2 Icecuber Bins	\$ 3,852.00
C.T. Cox Inc.	Excavate Courtyard Area	\$ 3,400.00
DLR Group	Professional Services	\$ 11,258.70
Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$ 4,027.50
Hertz Furniture Sys	4 Coat Rack Units w/Hangers	\$ 3,300.00
Mark Kugler Excav.	Dig 36'x32' Playground Area	\$ 3,975.75
Moore Medical	Scale-Nurse's Office	\$ 180.00
Officenter	191 Teacher Task Chairs	\$ 44,174.48
Officenter	Furniture-Administration, Nurses	\$ 174,046.39
	Guidance, Reception/Clerical Area	

Power & Communication Data, Phone Catv Cabling		\$	20,927.61
Power & Communication Data, Phone Catv Cabling		\$	16,832.20
Sax Arts & Crafts	2 Kilns/2 Furniture Kits Art Dept	\$	3,340.00
Schiller & Hersh	Professional Services	\$	18,667.00
Spring-Ford Sch. Dist	Reimburse General Fund (2 Inv)	\$	4,508.74
Versteel	10 Versteel Tables-Training Rms	\$	4,091.70
Virco	Classroom Furniture	\$	11,083.00
*Clark Food Service	Icecuber Bin	\$	111.64
*Grainger	2 18.0V Drills/Misc. Supplies	\$	501.48
*Moore Medical	Wheelchair/Scale Casters	\$	193.78
*Officenter, Inc.	120 Vertical Filing Cabinets/ 150	\$	133,718.40
*	Teacher Desks		
*Queen Appliances	Various G.E. Appliances	\$	12,551.00
*Recreation Resource	Wood Carpet	\$	1,675.00
*Rental World	Equipment Rental	\$	705.05
*School Health Corp	Medical Equipment	\$	2,940.89
*R.M. Shoemaker Co	Applic. #29- General Contractor	\$	169,518.00
*Spring-Ford Sch. Dist	Reimburse General Fund	\$	3,884.66
*Zimmerman Supply	20 Preference Mats	\$	370.00
	TOTAL	\$	654,864.97

3. UPPER PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services	\$	3,377.50
*Officenter, Inc.	1 Vertical Filing Cabinet	\$	376.32
	TOTAL	\$	3,753.82

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Item C. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

C. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of **MAY**, in connection with the **SERIES G.O.B. 2003**:

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$	2,537.00
DLR Group	Professional Services	\$	24,468.20
Limerick Township	Professional Services	\$	335.50
Limerick Township	Building Permit	\$	222.75
Up. Providence Twp	Building Permit	\$	1,785.00
Spring-Ford Sch Dist	Reimburse General Fund	\$	1,970.00
*Blaine Window Inc.	Window Hardware	\$	2,134.99
	TOTAL	\$	33,453.44

*NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Rocchio made a motion to approve Item D. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 8-0-1 with Mr. Rocchio abstaining.

D. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of **MAY**, in connection with the **CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT – Fund 22:**

Intermediate School

Gramm Remodling Inc.	Cabinets/Countertops-Home Ec.	\$	4,642.50
Reed Associates	Fume Hood	\$	<u>3,281.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$	7,923.50

Evaluation of Land Parcels

Potential Land Purchase

Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$	<u>4,450.56</u>
	TOTAL	\$	4,450.56

Phase II – Design Athletic Fields

Cowan Associates, Inc	Professional Services	\$	1,776.25
Horst Excavating Co.	Excavating Sitework	\$	<u>49,570.60</u>
	TOTAL	\$	51,346.85

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item E. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

E. The board approved of 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.

Regarding Item F, Mr. Ciresi asked whether it was possible to get group rates for cell phones as a group for maintenance workers and others. Mr. Anspach said group rates are used and the agreements are reviewed for all telephones and fax lines. He added that the various companies offered deals and that the Nextel 2-way is very advantageous. Mr. Rocchio made a motion to approve Item F. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

F. Checks:

1. April
Check No. 97282-97354 \$459,267.30

2. May
Check No. 97355-97610 \$748,414.87

3. Check List Held for May Board Approval
Check No. 97611-97740 \$199,366.36

4. Athletic Fund- April
Check No. 295921-296113 \$31,311.97

Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Items G-L. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

G. The board approved advertising for the sale of obsolete furniture from the Middle School. Furniture that is viewed as good or better will be used at the new Intermediate/Middle School.

H. The board approved of the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

Checks #5046-5141	\$168,498.91
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I. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved by the board:

- Treasurer's Report – April 30, 2004
- Money Market – April 30, 2004
- Checking Accounts – April 30, 2004
- PSDLAF – April 30, 2004
- PSDMAX – General Fund – April 30, 2004
- Investments – Flex CD – April 30, 2004
- PLGIT – April 30, 2004
- Tax Account – April 30, 2004
- Note of 2000 – April 30, 2004
- Note of 2002 – April 30, 2004
- Note of 2003 – April 30, 2004
- Athletic Fund – April 30, 2004
- Capital Reserve Fund – April 30, 2004
- Debt Service – April 30, 2004
- High School Activity Account – April 30, 2004
- Middle School Activity Account – April 30, 2004
- Elementary Activity Account – April 30, 2004
- Capital Reserve – April 30, 2004
- General Fund – April 30, 2004
- Cafeteria M/M Account – April 30, 2004
- Cafeteria Checking Account – April 30, 2004

J. The following reports were submitted to the board for its information:

- Cafeteria Savings Schedule
- Cafeteria Investment Schedule
- Cafeteria Profit and Loss Statement
- Cafeteria Participation Report

K. The board approved of bid awards listed below for various equipment/ supplies for the new Middle/Intermediate School. Bids were due March 23, 2004. Funding will be from the Construction Fund.

Athletic Equipment

Aluminum Athletic Equip.	\$6,531.00
Power Ad Co.	<u>\$4,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$10,531.00

Athletic Dept. -Wrestling Equipment

TW Promotions, Inc. \$5,450.00

Athletic Dept. –Training Room Equipment

Collins Sports Medicine	\$174.00
Alert Services	<u>\$790.00</u>
TOTAL	\$964.00

Physical Education Equipment

BSN/Passons	\$4,714.18
Gopher Sport	\$2,270.96
Cannon Sports	\$2,722.20
Sportmaster	\$692.00
Sportime	<u>\$8,795.12</u>
TOTAL	\$19,194.46

- L. The approved acceptance of the bid award for various **G.E. Appliances** for the new Middle/Intermediate School. Bids were due April 20, 2004. Funding will be from the Construction Fund.

GE Appliances

Queen Appliance Wholesale \$12,551.00

Regarding Item M, Mrs. Stokes asked about the next step in the pilot program. Dr. Hurda said it is not the district’s intention to provide hand-held computers to every student nor are they to take them home. It is a means for teachers to use technology in classrooms for reading, language arts, and social studies. One teacher on his own initiative came up with the idea and that is why Upper Providence is the pilot. Mr. Rocchio said he didn’t see a need in curriculum for this. Mr. Schroeder agreed and asked for the expected outcome of using them. Dr. Hurda said it meets standards in reading and math, having students collecting data, using spreadsheets, and reading maps. It supports state and national standards in math and science through exposure to new technology. Mr. Masciandaro referred board members to Goal #3 of the technology plan as encouraging administration to use technology in curriculum.

Mr. Cummins asked whether it was a true Palm Pilot in terms of being used for business applications. Dr. Hurda said it is the same as a Palm and has a keyboard. The board discussed whether it was related to curriculum. Dr. Hurda said it is a toll to enhance curriculum and the pilot will show whether it is effective. Mr. Ciresi asked about time constraints. Dr. Hurda said it is budgeted in the technology budget and it was be advisable to train teachers this fall. She added that it is a follow up on a recommendation and that it follows the technology plan. Mrs. Williams thanked Dr. Coale, Hurda, and staff and urged support for the initiative. Mr. Rocchio made a motion to approve Item D. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 5-3-1 with Mr. Cummins, Mr. Rocchio, and Mr. Schroeder voting no. Mr. Morgan abstained.

- M. The board approved of the purchase of 60 handheld computers and keyboards along associated battery charging equipment from ePlus Technology of Pennsylvania. The handhelds are Palm Model Zire 72. The total cost of the equipment is approximately \$20,195 which

represents a voluntary cost reduction by the contract holder under the PEPPM (Pennsylvania Educational Purchasing Program for Microcomputers) Contract. The pilot program for the handhelds will be undertaken in Upper Providence Elementary Grade 4. The project supports Section 5.1.1, Goal 3, located in Section 5, center of page 3 of 7 in the Technology Plan.) Funding is from the Technology Fund.

Mr. Rocchio made a motion to approve Item N. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- N. The board approved increasing lunch prices by \$.20 effective for school year 2004/2005 as follows:

Elementary - \$1.80 to \$2.00
 Secondary - \$2.00 to \$2.20
 Adult - \$3.50 to \$3.70

The last time that lunch prices were increased was in 1999-2000. The need for the increase is based on the increase of operational expenses of the cafeteria and additional personnel for the new buildings.

VIII. PROPERTY

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items A-D. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of the lowest responsible bidder to demo and remove the six (6) school owned portable classroom units for a total of **\$18,740.00** to **Mark Kugler Excavation** of Limerick pending solicitor's approval. Funds will come from the General Fund.
- B. The board approved of the lowest responsible bidder for Duct Cleaning at the Spring-Ford Area High School for a total of **\$23,000.00** to **Vent Vac** pending solicitor's approval. Funds will come from 2004-2005 General Fund.
- C. The board approved of the lowest responsible bidder for Duct Cleaning at the Spring-Ford Royersford Elementary School for a total of **\$13,800.00** to **Vent Vac** pending solicitor's approval. Funds will come from 2004-2005 General Fund.
- D. The board approved of the materials for PlanCon D – Project Accounting Based on Estimates for the 9th Grade Center, which have been reviewed and approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

IX. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items A-B. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of having Dr. Margaret J. Kay, Psychologist, 2818 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601 conduct an evaluation and provide an Independent Educational Evaluation Report. The Evaluation will include psychological, academic testing, and the provision of a written report. The cost will be paid from funds budgeted in the 2003-2004 Special Education Budget/General Fund. The total cost will not exceed \$1,650.
- B. The board approved to enter into an agreement with the Perkiomen School District (Host District) in the amount of \$104,000 for 19 slots in the Perkiomen Valley School District Alternative Education Program for the 2004-2005 school year.

X. CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Items A-C. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

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

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Patricia Dillon**, executive secretary, to attend *“PA Association of Notaries Reappointment Seminar”* in Lancaster, PA on Wednesday, June 30, 2004. This is a mandatory seminar in order to renew her commission as a notary for the school district. The total cost of the seminar is \$281.00 from the 580 account.

HIGH SCHOOL

- B. **Jane Kulp**, learning support teacher, to attend *“TEACCH I Training”* at the Timothy School in Berwyn, PA from Monday, June 21 through Friday, June 25, 2004. This training will help Jane develop techniques and skills using schedules and task analysis scripts for the older students which will help the students transition to the community. The total cost of this training is \$1290.00 from the Special Education Budget. No substitute is needed.

LIMERICK

- C. **Patricia Stroop**, learning support teacher, to attend *“Teacher Training #1 Introduction to Verbal Behavior”* at Gwynedd Mercy College from Thursday, June 24 through Saturday, June 26, 2004. This training will describe for Pat the behavioral approach to teaching communication skills to children with autism and other developmental disabilities. This teaching method is already being used with several of our incoming early

intervention students. The total cost of this training is \$415.00 from the Special Education Budget. No substitute is needed.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

A. The board approved of the following policies:

1. Policy # 005 – LOCAL BOARD PROCEDURES: Organization
2. Policy # 005.1 – LOCAL BOARD PROCEDURES – Board Committee Agenda and Minutes
3. Policy # 006 – LOCAL BOARD PROCEDURES: Meetings
4. Policy # 339 – ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES: Uncompensated Leave
5. Policy # 539 – CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: Uncompensated Leave

Executive Session Announcement

Mr. Pettit announced that the board would complete the agenda then go into executive session for Items B – E under Other Business.

XII. INFORMATION ITEM

There was none.

XIII. DISCUSSION ITEM

There was none.

XIV. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

XV. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The solicitor reported that he received a letter from Dr. Coale asking to follow up on easements for a gravity sewer. He said the map was unclear on property ownership and that three property owners were to be contacted. He will go ahead to obtain an easement. He added that he would get back to the board.

XIV. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Rocchio asked about the status of the land acquisition process. Mr. Cooper said they are waiting for the final appraisal and will have it condemned.

XVI. NEW BUSINESS

NEW PERSONNEL

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items A-E. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of the Leave of Absence for **Rebecca Steiner**, 4th grade teacher at Brooke Elementary School, effective May 12, 2004.
- B. The board approved of the Leave of Absence for **Margaret D. Wright**, Math Support Teacher at Brooke Elementary School, effective May 14, 2004.
- C. The board approved of **Paula Weiss**, Spring City, PA, for the secretarial position at the High School replacing Marion Pergine who was hired as the Administrative Assistant at the 7th Grade Middle School Building. Compensation will be set at \$12.00 an hour with benefits as per the Secretarial plan, effective date contingent upon receipt of required hiring documentation.
- D. The board approved of the Independent Contract for **Eric Paul**, Phoenixville, PA, to present a Magic Show regarding Pro Social Reinforcement in connection with Kindergarten Fun Day. The cost of the program will not exceed \$250 and will be in effect on June 3, 2004. Funding will be from the Spring City Home and School Association.
- E. The board approved of the Independent Contract for **Carly Solazzo**, Boyertown, PA in connection with Royersford Elementary School's PTO Cool School Program "Yoga for Kids". The cost of the program will not exceed \$1740 and will be in effect from June 21 to July 16, 2004. The program will be based on enrollment. Funding will be from the Cool School Funds.

NEW FINANCE

Mr. Schroeder said Spring-Ford is the only school in the region to receive an increase in aid cost, so the PECO assessment is adding up. He suggested contacting the Pennsylvania Department of Education to be held harmless until the suit is resolved. Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item A. Mrs. Williams seconded it. The board approved it 8-1 with Mr. Schroeder voting no.

- A. The board approved of the **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Special Education Services** for the 2004-05 school year in the amount of \$1,173,386 for the Spring-Ford Area School District

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item B. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 8-1 with Mr. Cummins voting no.

- B. The board approved of the final budget for the **Western Center for Technical Studies** for the 2004-05 school year as approved by the Joint Committee in the amount of \$4,530,049. The Spring-Ford Area School District cost is \$1,118,744, representing an increase of \$227,550 (+25.53%) increase from the 2003-04 school year.

Mr. Schroeder asked whether the monitors were standard TVs and the difference between 32" and 27". Mr. Spohn said they are regular TV/monitors and that 32" is the size currently in use at Upper Providence. Mr. Schroeder thanked him and said there was no need to go back to the vendor to ask for more reductions. Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item C. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 8-1 with Mr. Cummins voting no.

- C. The board approved of the purchase of 144 television/monitors for the new Middle/Intermediate School from Visual Sound, Inc. of Broomall. The sets, Zenith Model H32F36DT, are 32" diagonally and include a remote. The total cost of the sets is \$79,668 (\$553.25 each) and represents a voluntary price reduction by the contract holder under State Contract 5820-01. An additional reduction of \$23.95 per set was incurred for a total savings of \$3,448.80 (4.1% below contract). Funding is from the Technology Fund.

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Item D. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 8-1 with Mr. Schroeder voting no.

- D. The administration recommends board approval to have Custer's Garage supply assistance to the transportation department on an interim basis, at a rate of \$30.00 per hour. Assistance is needed to meet transportation demands, (i.e. ESY Summer programs, preparing run schedule for next year, day care arrangements, in district non-public runs, inputting changes to the data base, etc.).

NEW PROPERTY

Mrs. Williams asked if there was a change in philosophy regarding using funds from the capital reserve for a project. Mr. Anspach said the expenditure was taken from capital reserve since it was recommended. If it was not a recommendation, then funds are expended from the 9th grade center construction fund. Mrs. Williams said she was concerned that committees are running the board. She said one-time spending should come from capital reserve. Dr. Coale said there was discussion that it would come from the 9th grade fund. Mr. Masciandaro said that he disagreed that committees are overstepping their bounds. He said the discussion is being construed as a finance committee decision. The board can change the funding mechanism. Mr. Cummins suggested changing the wording of the last line to say: recommendation from the finance committee that funds come from the 9th grade center. Regarding Motion B, Mr. Morgan said that enrollment is still flat as of May reports. Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved of going out to bid for the Resurfacing and Repainting of the existing All-Weather Track. Areas have lost adhesion, developing soft spots, cracks are developing in the upper layers, and some areas have upper layers missing. The original installation was in

September 1993, and resurfaced in August 16, 1999. Resurfacing the All-Weather Track this summer meets the recommended 5 years in order to protect the surface from excessive wear. The funds will be expended from the 9th Grade Center Construction Fund.

Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Item B. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- B. The board approved of the materials for PlanCon D – Project Accounting Based on Estimates for the new K-4 Elementary School, which have been reviewed and approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. (Attachment)

NEW OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved that student number 60304 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.

Mrs. Williams asked about the consequences of Sunysys going out of business Mr. Spohn said the company had been around a long time and would most likely come back in another form. Mr. Masciandro made a motion to approve Item B under New Business. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- B. The board approved executing a lease with Sunesys of Warrington, PA to replace the portion of the District's computer network currently served by Verizon T1 lines with a fiber optic network. Execution of the agreement is pending review of documentation by the district's solicitor. The existing contract for the T1 lines ends in August 2004. Replacing the wired network with a fiber network will provide approximately 647 times the current bandwidth for approximately the same price extended over a ten year period. The new network will service both phones and data for all buildings except Spring City. The cost for lease is \$60,000 annually including maintenance (approximately 9% greater than what we currently spend on the T1 lines). The lease term will be five years. After the initial five years, the lease can continue on a month-to-month basis at a cost of \$18,000 annually. Leasing the fiber optic network allows for eRate eligibility in years 2-5 (based on current eRate regulations). Additional costs involve approximately \$80,000 for network switching equipment and installation of that equipment. The administrative recommendation is based on Option 1 on the attached "Summary of Costs Wired (T1) vs. Fiber" sheet. (This entire item supports Section 5.2.1, Goal 3, located in Section 5, center of page 5 of 7 in the Technology Plan.) Funding is from the Technology Fund.

Mr. Schroeder said that the students going into the National Technical Society should be commended. Mr. Pettit directed him to submit their names to Mr. Rocchio.

PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Kathy Henry, Upper Providence,
Thanked the broadcasting students and staff for giving their time.

Vicki Meyer, Spring City
Thanked Mrs. Williams for her comments. Said that the wording is important in how things are presented and understood her concerns. She said the public understood it too. She said Mr. Rocchio made a comment that unfunded mandates are being imposed could be a burden and she took offense since she is the parent of three children with learning disabilities.

Mr. Rocchio said that he wanted to address unfunded mandates imposed on school districts that place the burden on taxpayers. Mr. Cummins said as a parent of a child with autism that he could vouch for Mr. Rocchio and that he meant nothing offensive.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Pettit called a recess to go into executive session at 10 p.m. The board returned from recess at 10:12 p.m.

The board returned from executive session and approved Items B, C, D by 9-0.

- B. The board approved that student number 20304 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.
- C. The board approved that student number 30304 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.
- D. The board approved that student number 40304 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.

The board approved Item E 5-4 with Mr. Cummins, Mr. Schroeder, Mrs. Williams, and Mr. Morgan voting no.

- E. The board approved that student number 50304 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. The board adjourned. 10:15 p.m.

Spring-Ford Goals May 14, 2004

Actions from last meeting:

1. Each committee assigned will begin working their goal and report progress at the board work session.
2. We gave a piece of goal 5 to the Community Relations committee, see below.
3. The Board made a request to the administration to begin creating baselines, especially for goal 5. We are looking for this to be completed in May.
4. Reaffirmed that the original goals should be used as reference.

Process for working goals:

1. Define goals clearly. A good goal is a measurable result. The Board articulates the desired result or end, not the means.
2. The goals are given to the administration for execution. The following are the steps the administration is responsible for:
 - Establishing the baseline or current state
 - Formulating plans for goal achievement
 - Costs or other resource requirements
 - Recommendations on intermediate steps in goal achievement.
3. Board approval is obtained
4. The administration reports progress toward the goal in the district report card.

Goal Action Proposals:

1. Reduce class sizes (Original Goal #1)
Assignment: Property and Facilities Committees
2. Perform Feasibility Study on creation of "in house" alternative educational program (Original Goal #3)
Assignment: Curriculum Committee
3. Student Health and Safety - Reduce drug usage. (Original Goal #2)
Assignment - Extra Curricular Committee
4. Improve public perceptions of the district, Local industry as a district partner and alternative funding. Non-Monetary Employee Incentive: (Original Goals #4, 5, 16)

Assignment: Community Relations Committee

5. Key Measures: (Original Goals #6, 7, 8, 9,12)
Graduation rate increase, Increase percent of graduates going to post secondary school, Establish a listing of our graduates continuing education school placement, Increase scholarships achieved by our students. Graduate acceptance at top universities and colleges

Assignment: Full Board.

Tracking graduates to see how we are doing.

Assignment: Community Relations

6. School Media centers / libraries open weekends, evenings and summer. Create continuing education programs. (Original Goals #10, 11)

Assignment: Curriculum Committee

7. Reduce Childhood obesity:(Original Goal #13)

Assignment: Healthy Choices Committee

8. Increase PSSA and Terra Nova Test Scores: (Original Goal #14)

Assignment: Full Board

9. Plan for District wide Construction needs: (Original Goal #15)

Assignment: Facilities Committee

10. Establish a Blue Ribbon School (Original Goal #17)

Assignment: Curriculum Committee

11. Develop and implement a Five Year Financial Plan (Original Goal #18)

Assignment: Finance Committee

12. District Office replacement (Original Goal #19)

Assignment: Full Board

Referenced below are the original goals:

Spring-ford goals Feb 24, 2004 Version 2

Proposals:

1. Reduce class sizes
 - Establish and maintain smaller class sizes K - 6 to lower levels than present that would be in keeping with the desires of the community as established as a goal, of the Districts' Strategic Plan.
 - Class Size: establish a standard of smaller class size through out the district. Begin with K-6 and move into the middle and high school.

2. Reduce drug usage

Formally Establish a beefed up Drug prevention program that will both quantify and qualify the types of drugs that are prevalent in the SF School district. Include alcohol, inhalants, and over the counter drugs along with all illicit drugs. Formulate a plan that will address these findings, thru awareness programs, counseling programs, possibly integrated with community based programs. Also provide strong prevention and intervention measures. All results to be reported publicly to the Board twice a year.

3. Reduce costs and provide more services for alternative education.

- Establish a program for alternative Education within the district. Feature career based programs. programs should be of high quality with approved articulation agreements with Technical institutes and various colleges. DO NOT OVERLAP Programs that are available at WCTS. It is important to keep 'OUR STUDENTS' interested in their future. Any program must be flexible, It should offer Flex hours, day care, internships, intense counseling, and ultimately job placement components. We should stop sending our difficult students out of the district, and along with them hundreds of thousands of our communities tax dollars with them. It is time to treat this issue with respect and dignity and be accountable for all of our students.

- Determine the feasibility of operating our own alternative school.

- Special needs Children: Would like to see a study on what the district spends on these children and if possible for the district to bring these children back into the district and instruct them in a district building. With the state cutting its share of funding every year, and tuition going up we need to look at this matter and maybe set up a five-year goal

4. Improve public perceptions of the district

- Drastically Improve public relations getting positive as well as (possible negative) information to the immediate community expeditiously.

5. Local industry as a district partner

- Establish a program that beseeches large local industry to be part of District initiatives. This will create an environment that brings fresh ideas (from industry leaders) as well as possible project funding (such as help with technical initiatives, adult evening courses, co-ops etc.

- Alternative Funding: Interview companies that deals exclusively in marketing and sponsorship/grants to help the district target possible sources of revenue i.e. Merck, Peco, GM , etc., to help advance programing opportunities in the district.

6. Graduation rate increase

7. Increase percent of graduates going to post secondary school

- Establish a listing of our graduates continuing education school placement. Create diversity guidelines.

8. Increase scholarships achieved by our students
9. Tracking graduates to see how we are doing:
 - Create a graduate report, where are they 10, 20 and 30 years later
 - Track graduates to see where and what careers they pursue.
10. School Media centers / libraries open weekends, evenings and summer
11. Create continuing education programs
 - Renew Spring-Ford's commitment to Life-Long Learning by commissioning an Adult Ed Board responsible for oversight and operation of said adult education separate from the operations and involvement of the SFASD Board and Administration, similar to the model currently in use for many successful years in Owen J. Roberts SD.
12. Graduate acceptance at top universities and colleges:
 - Improve the prospects for Spring-Ford students being accepted at top universities and colleges.
13. Reduce Childhood obesity:
 - Promote healthy lifestyles to combat the growing epidemic of childhood obesity.
14. Increase PSSA and Terra Nova Test Scores:
 - Alarming number of test scores in the below average category in the 9th grade of the terra nova test scores in reading and mathematics. I would like to see these numbers brought into the single digits. The same holds true for the 11th grade PSSA test in mathematics. These numbers also need to be brought up into the single percentages also
- 15 Plan for District wide Construction needs:
 - I would like for this board to sit down together and come up with a plan for future needs based on actual numbers. Keep in mind that the state is still looking at some kind of education reform. We do not know what future state funding will be and we may possibly lose the ability to direct the portion of taxes that we collect
16. Non-Monetary Employee Incentive:
 - Work with local business to establish a discount or a special rate for example on mortgage and car loans for our staff. This will help in the bargaining process and help to retain good employees.
17. Establish a Blue Ribbon School
18. Financial Plan:
 - Develop and implement a Five Year Financial Plan indicating not only debt service and capital reserve, but also projecting future operating costs and additional personnel costs as impacted by the opening of new buildings and renovation of current buildings. As part of this five-year plan, use the information to project future budget and tax increases.

19. District Office:

- Commit to a plan, with a time line of no longer than 18 to 24 months (start to finish), to move district office operations to the Bechtel Road site. If this site is unsuitable, find another.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet A. Stokes
Board Secretary

Pat Dillon
Recording Secretary