

On May 26, 2015 the 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: Willard D. Cromley and Kelly J. Spletzer

Region II:

Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi and Thomas J. DiBello

Presiding Officer: Mark P. Dehnert

Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin

Business Manager: Timothy Anspach

Solicitor: Kyle Berman, Esq.

Student Reps.: Dana K. Ludgate and Daniel J. Ciresi

The following Board Members were absent: **Dawn Heine** and **Todd Wolf**

The following Board Members arrived late: **Clinton Jackson** (7:32 PM) and **Bernard Pettit** (7:36 PM)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dana stated that she is officially excited to welcome Danny Ciresi as her Co-Student Representative. She cautioned Danny that he will have a lot of long nights ahead of him but stated that this is a fantastic opportunity which will be sure to open doors for him in the future.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

II. ACTION ITEM

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 5-0.

- A. The Board approved **Resolution 2015-23** commending **Zachary Dorsey** for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Boys' Shot Put Championship. **(Attachment A13)**

III. PRESENTATIONS

Mr. McDaniel thanked the Board for the opportunity to recognize the PAC 10 Champions. Mr. McDaniel expressed how proud he was of all of the athletes and teams that won PAC 10 Championships. He called each PAC 10 Athlete, Team and Coach up to the podium so that Dr. Goodin could present them with a resolution on behalf of the Board in recognition of their accomplishments.

- A. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-11** commending **Colin Crosbie** for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Boys' 400 Meter Championship. **(Attachment A1)**
- B. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-12** commending **Aleigha Johnson** for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Girls' High Jump Championship. **(Attachment A2)**
- C. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-13** commending **Brandon Leacraft** for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Boys' Javelin Championship. **(Attachment A3)**
- D. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-14** commending **Paul Power** for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Boys' 1600 Meter Championship. **(Attachment A4)**
- E. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-15** commending **Paul Power** for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Boys' 3200 Meter Championship. **(Attachment A5)**
- F. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-16** commending **Milan Sharma, Chris Fennimore, Evan Horrocks** and **Paul Power** for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Boys' 4x800 Meter Relay Championship. **(Attachment A6)**
- G. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-17** commending **Chad Smiley** for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Boys' Pole Vault Championship. **(Attachment A7)**
- H. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-18** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Boys' Track Team** and their coaches Danielle Stauffer, Geoff Kahler, Rich Loughhead, Jamie Gray, Richard Fraker, Brian Sullivan, Heather Giovagnoli, Jack Kraynak and Matt Varady for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Championship. **(Attachment A8)**
- I. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-19** commending **Patrick Pascual** for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Boys' Tennis Singles Championship. **(Attachment A9)**
- J. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-20** commending Patrick **Pascual** and **Terrance Cruickshank** for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Boys' Tennis Doubles Championship. **(Attachment A10)**
- K. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-21** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Boys' Baseball Team** and their coaches Bruce Brobst, Ryan Souder, Jamie Scheck, Michael Heffernan and Tim Krause for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Championship. **(Attachment A11)**
- L. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-22** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Boys' Lacrosse Team** and their coaches Kevin Donnelly, Dan Monzo, Kevin Czapor, Bryan Capone and Bjorn Ullman for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Championship. **(Attachment A12)**

- M. Presentation of **Resolution 2015-23** commending **Zachary Dorsey** for winning the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Boys' Shot Put Championship. **(Attachment A13)**

Dr. Goodin stated that he wanted to make a correction to a statement made in the Mercury this past week and that is that if the Board were to approve a budget with a 1.9% millage increase the impact on the homeowner of a house assessed at \$100,000 would be approximately \$49 per year not per month.

Dr. Goodin stated that last week they had a budget presentation for the Board and some questions were raised. He stated that tonight they will add those details into the presentation. Dr. Goodin presented information on the historical index over the past 15 years. He stated that they have proposed a 1.9% millage increase and they are prepared to answer any clarifying questions as to how they were able to do that. Dr. Goodin compare the budget from 2014-2015 to 2015-2016. He explained the 2015-2106 expense changes. Dr. Goodin stated that one of the questions from last week was regarding the requests for new personnel. Dr. Goodin added that they were able to include some new positions in the budget and still keep the millage increase at 1.9%.

Dr. Roche provided an overview of the new personnel positions that were included in the budget. Dr. Roche explained that the positions being shown tonight are divided up by priority into 3 tiers but they are not the only positions being requested. He first explained the Tier 1 positions which were deemed "Highest Priority".

Mr. DiBello asked Dr. Roche to give an explanation of Project Lead the Way. Dr. Roche explained that Project Lead the Way began 3 years ago. Mr. DiBello stated that he wanted it to be clear that Project Lead the Way is part of the STEM Program initiative.

Dr. Roche next explained the Tier 2 positions which were deemed to be "High Priority" and needed in order to keep up with the increasing enrollment music programs as well as the increased need and support of our special education population. Dr. Roche stated that also included in this list is bringing on a full- time communications and marketing manager thereby eliminating the part-time independent contract. Dr. Roche added that this marketing manager would be paired with the television programming specialist thereby incorporating both of these individuals as well as the assistant to the programming specialist under the Superintendent's Office.

Mrs. Spletzer stated that when she adds up Tier 1 and Tier 1 she gets \$620,000. Dr. Roche pointed out that the figure did not include the benefits but that information was provided to the Board previously. Dr. Roche reported that for all of Tier 1 including maximum family benefits for all of those positions the total would be \$423,694. He next reported that for all of Tier 2 including maximum family benefits for all the total would be \$497,450. Mrs. Spletzer asked if it those numbers got them to the \$1.5 million that they have on the interactive Excel spreadsheet and Dr. Roche replied no that what was missing is Tier 3 as well additional staffing added for extra-curricular contracts.

Dr. Roche next provided the information on the Tier 3 positions which were deemed a "Priority".

Mr. Ciresi stated that with regards to the curriculum supervisor, he had brought up the possibility of hiring of someone to oversee the creative arts and he wondered if that position was listed anywhere. Dr. Roche replied that the curriculum areas are covered under the Directors of Curriculum but there is not a Director of Creative Arts position listed. Mr. Ciresi asked if this was looked at and Dr. Roche said it was looked at in terms of a conversation that he and Mr. Ciresi had and was quickly discussed but this information was already being shared and it was not added to the list. Mr. Ciresi asked what the department chairs of the different areas of the arts were currently being paid and Dr. Roche replied in the \$3,000 - \$4,500 for their department chair duties in addition to their teaching duties. Mr. Ciresi asked how many department chairs there were and Dr. Roche said 1 per major content area but approximately 5 for the arts.

Mr. DiBello commented that he believes one of the things we are missing in each of the tiers new position-wise is school counselors especially at the high school level with the large class sizes that are coming. Mr. DiBello stated that he believes we are asking the counselors to take on too much of a burden with the number of students they are responsible for. Mr. DiBello said he believes that at the minimum we should be adding another counselor at the high school level. Dr. Roche replied that there are many positions being presented tonight that have been vetted through the principals as he and Dr. Goodin met with them. Dr. Roche commented that the Board is not seeing everything that has been requested. Mr. DiBello stated that he understood that but one of the positions we should be adding is at least one more counselor at the high school level.

Mr. Pettit asked how many caseloads each counselor is responsible for and Dr. Roche replied approximately 300. Mr. Pettit stated that he agrees with Mr. DiBello that the guidance counselors must be increased at the high school level as it is way too many for one person to handle. Dr. Roche commented that depending on the grade that is pretty much the average if our class sizes are averaging around 600 but we do have some class sizes of 660.

Mr. Ciresi referenced a previous list that was sent home that showed 2 school counselors in grades K-4 and he asked if that was a need for now and Dr. Roche replied that those two positions were not included in this 1.9% budget but may have been listed as part of the four-year plan. Mr. Ciresi said he wanted to move off of the 1.9% and then questioned what leads the district the curriculum or the budget. Mr. Ciresi asked Dr. Roche if this was a need that they needed to have for next year and Dr. Roche replied that he would have to look at the numbers but yes people are strapped with the number of students they are working with and could use additional support. Mr. Ciresi asked what classes have over 30 students in them at the high school and should be looked at and Dr. Roche replied that in speaking with Dr. Nugent his concerns were in the math, social studies and science classes.

Mr. DiBello commented that he wanted to be clear that the reason we are here tonight is because they never had this conversation although it was requested. He stated that the information was sent home in the board packets but for many reasons they did not have the conversations. Mr. DiBello said that they are here to provide the best educational opportunities for the students with as minimal an impact to the community as possible. He added that they cannot shortchange the

student's career growth or educational growth because we are trying to stay within a certain number. Mr. DiBello stressed that his point is whether we are overburdening the current counselors. He added that they all sat there as a Board and pushed the STEM Program and they all want to talk about it but now that we are hearing that the classes that make up STEM such as math, science and technology are growing beyond 30 we don't want to address this. He stated that they need to look at this as well and the Board needs to have these discussions.

Dr. Roche agreed and said they tried to have Finance Committee meetings to discuss this but it didn't happen. Dr. Roche reported that when Dr. Goodin turned to his administrators and said tell us everything you need then what came back was \$3.8 million in new staff.

Mr. Ciresi asked if the interactive spreadsheet could be put up on the overhead so that they can all see the positions and what each one would do to the budget. Mr. Ciresi asked if a school resource officer was needed for next year and Dr. Goodin replied that they what they did was prioritize the positions needed and the resource officer may be in a future staffing request.

Interactive spreadsheet was put up on the overhead so that the board could discuss the various scenarios and see how it impacted the tax increase.

Mrs. Spletzer expressed her concerns with the interactive spreadsheet saying that it shows what the increase was from the preliminary budget but not necessarily year over year.

Mr. DiBello expressed concern on whether some of the positions that were prioritized were not being considered because an individual promoted a 1.9% or are we not doing it because they are not necessary. Mr. DiBello added that the other thing that is not worked into this budget is that they recently signed a new teacher's contract and over the four year length of the contract there are expenses that grow. He stated that based on this year's budget what they are not doing is evenly breaking down that percentage growth to the district so it is loaded for next year. Mr. DiBello commented that the fiscally responsible thing to do would be to take a portion every year but instead we are loading onto next year's budget the increases to the contract related to professional salaries. Mr. DiBello cautioned that next year the district will be hit with a number that is going to be much higher because it will have to cover the agreed terms of the teacher's contract.

Mr. Dehnert commented that this is more of a reason to be careful of not growing the budget as right now we have a pretty substantial increase year after year on the budget. Mr. Dehnert stated that we are here to take care of educational needs but we are also here to live within the means of the taxpayers. Mr. Dehnert added that he feels we need to make choices on what we can afford and we cannot just sit here and load up all of these new personnel positions or put some other number in for next year's increase in salaries. Mr. Dehnert commented that we need to take care of what we can afford to grow the budget this year and he feels we had a substantial increase and we really need to see how we can keep within the index because that index is what our taxpayers can afford. Mr. Dehnert stated that like it or not that is reality and people cannot afford to get huge tax increases year after year.

Mr. DiBello commented that based on that philosophy we are going to hit them next year for a large tax increase because we are not taking the money and dividing it down equally over a 4 year period. Mr. DiBello did not feel that Mr. Dehnert's comment made sense and stated that next year the taxpayers would be hit even higher.

Mr. Jackson asked that the Board allow Dr. Goodin and Dr. Roche to finish the presentation before commenting.

Mr. Ciresi asked Dr. Roche to present the personnel recommendations that would have been requested if they had not been limited to a 1.9% tax increase.

Dr. Roche reviewed the personnel projections showing each request according to the tier in which they were listed. He provided rationale for the positions.

Mr. Ciresi asked Dr. Roche to show the effect on the budget if the 4 high school teaching positions were added back in as well as the two additional guidance counselor positions. Mr. Ciresi next asked about the high school budget and requested that funds be added to the budget to cover the cost of the SAT's for the junior class who would have to retake the test since it had changed thereby making the test taken this year essentially useless. Mr. Nugent confirmed that this had been a topic of discussion at their weekly meeting and the cost would be an additional \$8,000. Mr. Ciresi indicated that he believed there should also be money included in the budget to deal with the additional transportation costs for whatever solution is decided upon to address the bus routing concerns.

Dr. Goodin and Dr. Roche indicated that additional revenue had not been added to the high school budget to address the cost of the SAT Exams. Dr. Roche also added that no additional funds were added to the budget in terms of moving forward and bus route changes. Dr. Roche stated that they have information to present back to the Policy Committee meeting where they will present the criteria for bus stops as well as any additional information relating to this.

Mr. Pettit questioned the possibility of changing some of the routes that would not require a significant amount of money in order to correct some of the inequities that are falling on some of the residents. Mr. Pettit said he was not sure of the amount of money it would cost to address the issue and he referred to the Rivercrest bus stop and the possibility of taking the bus into the development 100 yards in order to pick the kids up there instead of having them stand out on Route 29. Mr. Pettit stated that this should not be kicked down the road and it should be resolved. Mrs. Spletzer agreed that this is the right time to talk about this. Dr. Roche commented that the problem you run into with regards to budgeting is that if you have a certain number of developments and you begin to go into some of them then you get requests to go into more and then you have to add ride time and fuel costs so this then begins to add up. Dr. Roche stated that this will become a concern.

Mr. DiBello asked if administration knew what the cost would be if the busses went into the majority of the developments and Dr. Goodin replied approximately \$800,000. Mr. DiBello asked where this number came from and if Mrs. Sanderson were here to explain.

Mr. Dehnert asked why the Board was even entertaining this as the district does not have their bus routes for inequities but rather for safety and to be able to transport students. Mr. Dehnert stated that he is not sure why we would start putting lots of money into the budget for the purpose of dealing with inequities.

Mr. Jackson questioned the dollar figures that were talked about last week and this week and said no study had been done and there was no way to validate a cost. Dr. Goodin replied that they did not pull the numbers out of the air and that through the Transportation Department they had calculated how many additional busses would be needed to travel into the developments in order to limit the amount of time the students would have to be on the bus plus the additional fuel costs. Dr. Goodin stated that we currently travel into 29 developments but we have over 100 that we could potentially have to go into. Mr. Jackson asked if an analysis was done of each development and Mrs. Sanderson provided information on how she was able to determine the approximate cost. She indicated that she used the Versatrans Program that is currently used for routing busses. Mrs. Sanderson stated that she looked at each of the 435 bus routes to determine which of those routes the busses would have to go into. She reported that she calculated approximately 5 minutes for the busses to go in and back out of the developments and then added this to the route time. Mrs. Sanderson indicated that she then calculated how long the route would actually be and if it was found to be too long and the bus would not be able to make the second tier of the routes then an additional bus would be needed. Mrs. Sanderson stated that a majority of the tier one busses are already at their allotted time so any development that the busses go into will put them over on their time. Mrs. Sanderson cautioned them that going into developments does not just involve one bus as Rivercrest alone has students attending 15 different schools which means 15 routes into the development twice a day or 30 routes per day just for one development.

Mr. Ciresi asked if there was any consideration given to the students who cross major streets such as Main Street in Royersford or in Spring City. He stated that if we are looking at going into developments for safety are we also looking at busses for some of the kids who have to cross over main street which has a lot of traffic and enormous safety issues. Mrs. Sanderson stated that in towns there are crossing guards and specific spots where students can cross safely. Mrs. Sanderson stated that she does look at routes whenever she receives concerns or issues and Rivercrest will have some changes in place for next year but she wanted to make it clear that students never cross Route 29. Mrs. Sanderson commented both personally and in talking with other transportation coordinators in other districts that they all feel that when you have a bus stay on a main road and pick up door side that this is a much safer than going into a development where cars and parents are parked everywhere and kids come running from every direction. Mrs. Sanderson reported that they will be changing the Rivercrest bus stop to a door side pickup and she feels that this is an appropriate change to make at this time.

Mr. DiBello commented that the problem is that just about two months ago they sat here and got all excited over concerns with busses that were travelling on major roads that have speed limits of 45 miles per hour. Mr. DiBello stated that one of the comments made was that we needed to use commonsense. He added that as a Board there was a lot of excitement about doing what was right to protect our students. Mr. DiBello reported that they then went to a Finance Committee meeting

and heard that there could be a potential increase by doing this in order to protect the students. Mr. DiBello added that the discussion then was that they did not want to do this as it may add to the budget and increase taxes. Mr. DiBello expressed his issue with the fact that we currently go into some developments. He stated that we cannot have it both ways and go into some developments but not others. Mr. DiBello said he is not going to determine what is right and what is wrong but from a budgeting standpoint we should add some percentage of the money that was figured out in order for the district to do a pilot program.

Mr. Jackson commented that it is his understanding that this discussion centered around Rivercrest and he believes we were going to go out and perform a study that would then be presented. Mr. Jackson stated that if we sit here and say that the cost is going to be \$500,000-\$600,000 then we are placing a value on something we have not qualified. Mr. Jackson said he hears what Mrs. Sanderson is saying but we are basically taking the average. Mr. Jackson agreed with Mr. DiBello that there should be some cost added into the budget but we are not going to do all of the developments next year so we should not put a cost to cover all of the developments into the budget for next year.

Mr. Dehnert asked why a pilot program was needed in order to determine whether we can drive into a development as this seems pretty easy as a bus turns into a development and then stops and picks people up. He questioned why a pilot was needed when we can do that in one development. Mr. Dehnert commented that he believes we should be looking at whether or not our bus routes are reasonably safe and he thinks that he heard from administration that they are. Mr. Dehnert asked why we would arbitrarily say we were going to add some large number of dollars to a budget to go into developments. He wondered why we do not just pull a bus into every driveway as this would be really convenient. Mr. Dehnert stated that he thinks the goal is to see how much can be added to the budget tonight as it looks like we are spending like drunken sailors. Mr. Dehnert added that the budget has a 1.9% tax increase that still has a \$7.4 million increase over last year which is really high. He pointed out that there are other districts around us that are finding a way to have a 0% tax increase but we seem to be going in a different direction to see how high we can get the budget. He asked if the goal tonight was to put all kinds of things into the budget to see how high we can get it or was the goal to come up with a budget that the taxpayers can afford.

Mr. Ciresi stated that he has said over and over again that the goal is to do what is best for our students and our community. Mr. Ciresi said he is not for raising the budget up and in the 10 years he has sat on the Board they have never done this and he equated it to pulling teeth. He stated that the process is horrible and they look like a bunch of fools not knowing what is going on. He stated that they asked last week how they got to 1.9% and what had been taken out and what are they not doing for education that they need to do. Mr. Ciresi stated that he agrees with Mr. DiBello and Mr. Jackson that something should be put a little bit of something into the budget for transportation. He added that no one is sitting here wanting to get the budget up as that would not make any sense. Mr. Ciresi stated that if the Board wants to get the tax increase down to zero then do it and let's figure out what we need to cut. Mr. Ciresi noted that there were approximately 30-40 teachers sitting in the audience tonight and the Board has not talked about anything curriculum based.

He stated that he does not disagree that they all have to live within their means and he then reminded the Board that next year with the teacher contract they will be at 2%-3% tax increase right out of the gate because they did not budget for this over a 4 year period. Mr. Ciresi urged the administrators who were present to say what needs to be said about the budget and he urged them to respond to what the Board needs to do in order to do the right thing and move Spring-Ford forward.

Mr. Dehnert commented that they heard the Superintendent state last week during a budget presentation that this budget did not cut any programs and they thought that this budget was one that they could make. Mr. Dehnert stated that he does not think the Superintendent and the Business Manager would present a budget that they did not think would be one that they could afford and one that would cover the educational leads that they were projecting. Mr. Dehnert added that they could always put more in to the budget, spend more, and want more but unfortunately money is an object and they have to make choices on where to spend the money. Mr. Dehnert stated that we cannot arbitrarily keep adding to the budget and say that next year there will be an increase. Mr. Dehnert stated that they should worry about next year next year.

Mr. DiBello stated that when he got on the Board in 2010 this is exactly why they ended up with an \$11.8 million deficit as people said let's worry about next year next year. Mr. Dehnert disputed this saying there was a major recession. Mr. DiBello added that no one signs a 4 year contract and does not amortize that over the 4 years as you need to plan appropriately. Mr. DiBello stated that this is the reason why when Mr. Dehnert was on the Board previously they had 5.5% tax increases and now he want to sit here and grandstand saying he wants 1.9%. Mr. Dehnert argued that those tax increases were before his time. Mr. DiBello said that they have to do what is right for the community and what is right for the kids and not say let's worry about next year next year because that is exactly why they ended up in the hole that they were in. Mr. Dehnert stated that this is the first time he heard about putting money in for the following year's fiscal salaries and again stated that he never heard that before.

Mr. Dehnert commented that they have a budget that they need to approve and Mr. DiBello interrupted saying, "I make a motion to approve the budget". Mr. Dehnert told Mr. DiBello that he was out of order and only one person talks at a time. Mr. Dehnert stated that they have a budget that administration recommended for approval that has a 1.9% tax increase and a \$7.4 million increase in spending and he feels this is pretty significant and they are not shortchanging anyone when they take an increase this high.

Mr. Anspach asked the Board to also consider that for state revenue purposes they only put into the budget what they were going to receive for the current year and Governor Wolf's proposal is still out there to be discussed. Mr. Anspach stated that they took the viewpoint of being conservative with the budget by not putting those additional monies in. Mr. Anspach spoke about the potential additional revenue that the district could see. Mrs. Spletzer asked if the debt refinance savings were in the budget and Mr. Anspach stated no that those savings will be realized at the end of the year. Mr. Dehnert stated that with regards to Mr. Anspach's comments there are significant savings to be realized over the next three years as there is \$3 million in savings that was not included in this budget process.

Mr. DiBello stated that Harrisburg is a mess right now and all this talk is just projections so we cannot sit here and base anything on that until it is signed into law. He cautioned that we should not even be talking about this.

Mrs. Spletzer asked if we knew how far under or over budget we were as of now with regards to this year's budget and Mr. Anspach said the surplus is a little over \$3 million. Mrs. Spletzer asked what the plans were for this surplus and Mr. Anspach explained that \$2 million surplus was from the Self-funded Health Care Plan and this surplus would go into the Insurance Stabilization Fund to be used in the future if we were to have a year with a lot of health care claims. Mr. Anspach replied that there is another \$1.5 million which includes all of the other transfers for technology as well as funds designated for the modernized learning initiative which will be brought over to the Capital Reserve Account. Mr. DiBello cautioned that the word "surplus" was not the correct terminology as there was money that was planned in the budget and when we have a good year the money is then placed in the reserve to be pulled out in the event of a bad year. Mr. DiBello stated that it is not a surplus and we do not just have money laying around for the heck of it; all of the funds have been planned. He next spoke of the money that is budgeted for technology in order to enhance where we are at as a district. Mr. DiBello next spoke about this year's budget where money was added in for the purchase of textbooks for the Reading and Math Programs which will be paid over a three year period. Mr. DiBello also commented on the money that is budgeted to the Capital Reserve Account which will go towards Capital Improvement Projects that are part of the 20 year plan that Mr. Cooper puts together.

Mr. Anspach returned to the PowerPoint presentation and reviewed the 2015-2016 revenues and the changes in revenue. Mr. Anspach explained that the preliminary budget was presented with the allowable state tax exemptions plus a transfer from the Capital Reserve Account. He stated that the Board requested an overall tax increase no higher than 1.9% which therefore eliminated the need to utilize the state tax exemptions as well as the additional transfer from the Capital Reserve Account.

Mr. Ciresi stated that he is frustrated as he is sure many of the Board Members and the public are. He commented that the 1.9% tax increase does not exist as the Board voted no so to keep saying the budget is at 1.9% is a lie as the Board voted no. Mr. Ciresi said they keep going back to the budget they saw last week and voted no to so why would they vote yes this week if it was no last week and there have not been any changes. He asked administration if they had not been given the directive from the Finance Committee meeting to get the budget down to 1.9% then what would still be included as part of the budget. Dr. Goodin replied that the Board has seen exactly what they had to take out of the budget in order to get it down to 1.9% and that list included the elimination of the new teaching positions for the high school. Dr. Roche added that it was everything that was tiered down for the next four years and were not part of the request for this year. Dr. Roche stated that there was no direction from last week to this week in terms of the presentation so today they presented everything that the Board already had so that they could have a complete discussion. Mr. Ciresi asked that the personnel spreadsheet be brought back up. Dr. Roche clarified that 4 positions on the list that were cut in order to get the increase down to 1.9% were the 3 teachers at the high school (Math, Science and Social Studies) and the emotional support teacher at Royersford Elementary.

Mr. Dehnert asked why those 4 were chosen when there were administrator positions on the list which are a much higher cost than adding teachers. Mr. Dehnert next commented that based on the changes in the Curriculum Department over three or four years we will have quadrupled the number of people in that department. He suggested that the focus should be more on the education side rather than add more administrators and a secretary. Mr. Dehnert stated that he found it odd that an administrator would be hired where there is not an existing position and then would require a secretary as well. He questioned if the administrator would be generating that much paperwork and administrative work to require a secretary. Mr. Dehnert said he would be more in favor of adding teachers and not more administrators.

Dr. Goodin replied that Mr. Dehnert was correct in that there were 3 administrative positions that were proposed with 2 of them being Curriculum Supervisors. Dr. Goodin added that currently the Curriculum Department consists of a director and an assistant director. He stated that there are 4 coaches in the district who are doing embedded instructional work but these coaches are not doing the work of the Curriculum Department. He commented that there are 8,000 students in this large district and there is a need for a larger Curriculum Department and that is why two supervisors were being requested. Dr. Goodin commented that the decision is up to the Board to tell administration whether they can have this or not as he is just telling the Board what they need in order to run an efficient program and get the work done that needs to be done. Dr. Goodin stated that for some reason there is a tendency to think that administration isn't necessary and all of the work happens in the classroom, granted, but someone has to take care of, for example, the special education work load as currently we are running at 408 cases per special education supervisor which is almost double what is found in other districts. Dr. Goodin commented that the special education supervisors are swamped and have been swamped. Dr. Goodin said the recommendation is being made for 2 Curriculum Supervisors and a Special Education Supervisor as well as teachers and it is up to the Board to determine whether or not this is approved but he is making the recommendation that this is what is needed.

Mr. DiBello stated that he hears that we need higher level support and plans. He questioned that from a support standpoint, to effectively support the district and the professional staff, between coaches and curriculum supervisors what is needed. Dr. Goodin replied that from an administrative standpoint a literacy supervisor is needed, a math/science supervisor as well as a special education supervisor.

Mr. Pettit stated that he does not have a problem with this and curriculum is important but as Mr. Ciresi originally question is the budget of 1.9% driving the curriculum or should not the curriculum needs drive the budget. He stated that this is the real issue here.

Mr. Ciresi said he supported putting the 3 teaching positions back in and leaving curriculum where it is. He stated that possibly the secretarial position was not needed. Mr. Ciresi said hearing the passion from Dr. Goodin regarding the need for the positions and his defense of the positions is what he needed to see. Mr. Ciresi stated that his recommendation is to add the 3 teaching positions for the high school back into the budget and add a guidance counselor at the high school.

Mr. Pettit asked what this would like in terms of the budget.

Mrs. Spletzer asked if this was done would the numbers be sustainable and is it something we have to do this year and could not do next year from a standpoint of living within our means for the taxpayers who tell her they are on a fixed income and cannot afford continuous increases. Dr. Goodin asked for clarification on what the question was. Mrs. Spletzer asked if this is something that could be pushed off a year and budgeted for on a step by step basis. Dr. Goodin replied that is exactly what they have done with the staffing as when they originally asked for a list of what the principals and the directors really wanted the staff request list worked out to be approximately \$3.8 million. Dr. Goodin explained that the list was then reviewed and broken down into tiers over a four year timespan. Mrs. Spletzer asked if the budget they are presenting here without adding in the additional positions was the one that they were prepared to move forward with and Dr. Goodin confirmed that was correct as they were directed to come in at 1.9%. Mrs. Spletzer stated that regardless of the 1.9% if they do not add the 3 extra teachers in and Dr. Goodin finished that there will be some larger class sizes at the high school. Mrs. Spletzer stated that by some larger classes you mean 3 and Dr. Roche clarified that at the secondary level these teachers may be teaching 5-6 classes. Dr. Roche indicated that the scheduling is still being done. He added that they are also still doing K-8 staffing as well and we will continue to make sure they are within the guidelines and if they get closer then we will be challenged to ask for additional staff. Mrs. Spletzer asked if the numbers are manageable and Dr. Roche replied that the numbers they have right now we are at a neutral point in terms of teachers. He stated that he believes we will be okay as we move forward with the projections we have here in May.

Mr. Pettit stated that the question is not can we do it as he is sure we can but the question is should we do it.

Mr. Jackson commented that they keep going back and forth and Board Members are on all different sides. He stated that they cannot vote like this and it is not a way to vet a budget as this is very bad. Mr. Jackson stated that this was not a reflection on Dr. Roche or Dr. Goodin. He suggested that administration take 3 minutes and put in there what they deem they need and then the Board can look at it. Mr. Jackson asked if Dr. Roche and Dr. Goodin felt they could sit down and put in what they felt they need as an administration to effectively run the district.

Mr. Ciresi stated that the issue lies with the directive given to go to 1.9% and that died at the Board table last week. Mr. Ciresi asked what the administration had indicated they needed and want to present to the Board. Dr. Roche replied that this was done in the preliminary budget as everything was presented at one time and then tiered down being realistic in terms of finances as well as what could realistically be handled next year. Dr. Roche stated that also taken into consideration are the projects, the goals Dr. Goodin has, the goals the Board has, the goals the district has and how to move those goals forward and present a united front in terms of saying here is what we can do and here is what is reasonable knowing the budget landscape whether it be 1.9% or whatever it works out to be.

Mr. Dehnert commented that the number was at 2.85%. Dr. Roche stated that it started at 4.07% when the discussions first began and that larger number included all of the staff in all of the different tiers as well as those positions that were discussed as "nice to have" and "maybe need". Mr. Dehnert asked if the number was 2.85% prior to the Finance Committee meeting. Dr. Roche stated that all along the with every budget

conversation separate from personnel has had every budget evaluated, shaved, reduced and some additions made to it. Dr. Roche reported that they have gone through this arduous process and now it is all being boiled down to new staff. Dr. Roche added that it is all getting very minute in terms of the whole conversation and what it takes to even present the fine-tuned numbers. Dr. Roche stated that he and Dr. Goodin will do their best to come up with the personnel list they felt was needed.

The meeting recessed at 9:10 p.m. so that Dr. Goodin and Dr. Roche could meet and discuss the new personnel requests.

The meeting was called back to order at 9:29 p.m.

Mr. Jackson asked that the Board show respect to themselves and allow each other to speak and make their point.

Dr. Roche provided an overview of the positions that he and Dr. Goodin discussed for inclusion into the budget. Those positions included adding 7 additional math support teachers at the K-4 level, the 3 teachers at the high school (math, social studies and language), as well as 2 additional school counselors at the K-4 level.

Mr. Ciresi asked what the budget now looks like with those changes made to it and Dr. Roche replied 2.72%.

Mr. Dehnert asked what the dollar amount would be and Dr. Roche replied a \$767,000 increase. Mr. Dehnert asked what the total budget would be and Dr. Roche responded \$145,221,260. Mr. Dehnert stated that it would be an \$8 million increase in spending from last year's budget which percentage wise would be close to 6% over last year. Mr. Dehnert stated that from what he has seen this would be the largest spending increase of any of the district's he has seen in the Philadelphia area.

Mr. Ciresi asked what the additional cost would be per household per \$100,000 of assessed value and Mr. Anspach calculated the increase to be approximately \$70.

Mrs. Spletzer stated that administration has done what was asked and whether the Board could now move forward.

Mr. DiBello stated that he is concerned with the budget not properly allocating funds to cover the teacher contract as if these amounts are not spread out.

Mrs. Spletzer reminded the Board that this is preliminary and must be posted for 30 days so they have time to discuss it and adjust it.

Mr. Berman commented that they are authorizing the district to advertise this budget to the public. He advised the Board that they are not approving a budget at this time and within the next 30 days the budget can change dramatically.

Mr. Pettit stated that it could be lower or higher. Mr. Berman verified this was correct.

N. **Dr. David R. Goodin**, Superintendent of Schools, and **Mr. Timothy Anspach**, Business Manager, to present the 2015-2016 Proposed Final Budget.

IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Extracurricular Tom DiBello 2nd Mon. 6:00 p.m.

Mr. DiBello stated that due to the lateness of the meeting he will have the meeting minutes posted on the School Board website.

MCIU Tom DiBello 4th Weds. 7:00 p.m.

There was no report as the meeting is tomorrow night.

PSBA Liaison Todd Wolf

There was no report as Mr. Wolf was absent.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin reported that in an effort to continue our Green Initiative, he is proud to announce that our Athletic Department has changed to an online registration process for the 2015-2016 school year. He stated that the new registration process will allow parents to securely log into the Registration Gateway site to complete their child's sports registration. The Athletic Department website has information pertaining to Registration Gateway as well as a timeline for sports physicals and deadlines. Dr. Goodin advised that additional information can be found on the Spring-Ford website under the "Athletics" tab. Dr. Goodin announced that last week he had the pleasure of attending the Senior Academic Recognition Banquet where more than 130 seniors were recognized for attaining at least a 95.0 cumulative average during their high school years. He stated that these students were recognized for the outstanding effort they made during their senior year as well as the 12 years leading up to it. He stated that from their first day of kindergarten to today, these students have worked hard to achieve academic excellence and they should be congratulated.

Solicitor's Report Kyle Berman

There was no report.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

A. The Board approved the April 20, 2015 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A14)**

B. The Board approved the April 27, 2015 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A15)**

VI. PERSONNEL

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

A. Resignations

1. **Carol K. Crossman**, Executive Secretary, Maintenance and Operations; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: July 9, 2015.

2. **Alison E. Hughes**, Gifted Support Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center. Effective: June 19, 2015.

3. **Judy L. John**, Full-time Food Service, Senior High School. Effective: April 30, 2015.
 4. **Jaime L. LaForgia**, Literacy Staff Coach, Upper Providence Elementary School. Effective: August 11, 2015.
 5. **Mary Jane McAnallen**, Instructional Assistant, Oaks Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: July 17, 2015.
 6. **Kathleen Rhodenbaugh**, Food Service, 8th Grade Center; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 11, 2015.
 7. **Kenneth A. Rhodenbaugh**, Maintenance; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: July 8, 2015.
- B. The Board approved the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2014-2015 school year. **(Attachment A16)**
- C. The Board approved the following Special Education Teachers to be hired for the 2015 Extended School Year – Professional Staff including: Fast Forward, Speech & Language Services, and Tutor Programs. Compensation will be set at \$30.00 per hour plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds.
1. **JoAnna D’Orazio**
 2. **Tara A. McGuirl**
- D. The Board approved the following Support Staff to be hired for the 2015 Extended School Year Program. Compensation for new employees will be set at \$16.36-\$18.15 per hour depending on experience and educational degree plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Regular hourly employee will be paid at their current Instructional Assistant hourly rate. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds.
1. **Lisa J. Denner**
 2. **Megan O. Mowrer**
- E. The Board approved the following teachers to be hired for the 2015 Cool School Program. Compensation will be set at \$30.00 per hour and will be funded through student tuitions. There will be no cost to the district.
1. **Maria L. Cottman**
 2. **Dawn M. DeBusi**
 3. **Stephanie R. Fitler**
 4. **Russell J. Landis**
 5. **Amy L. Reinert**
 6. **Nicole Schwenk**

- F. The Board approved the following Music Teachers to be hired for the 2015 Summer Instrumental Program. Compensation will be set at \$30.00 per hour and will be funded through student tuitions. There will be no cost to the district.

1. **Nadine L. Hoffman**
2. **Kristen K. Katzianer**
3. **Emily L. McGranahan**

- G. The Board approved the following Teacher for the Pre-K Summer Readiness Pilot Program. Compensation will be set at \$30.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Curriculum Budget.

1. **Celeste Baumgardner**

- H. The Board approved the following Instructional Assistant for the Pre-K Summer Readiness Pilot Program. Compensation will be set at \$18.11 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Curriculum Budget.

1. **Debra Mohr-Kehs**

VII. FINANCE

Mr. DiBello asked that Item K be separated.

Mrs. Spletzer made a motion to approve Items A-M excluding Item K and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. DiBello made a motion for Item K and that the budget be advertised at the original number of 2.85% which was prior to the Finance Meeting last month. Mr. DiBello said he did not recall what the dollar amount was. There was a lot of confusion regarding the correct budget dollar amount for the 2.85% tax increase. After a lengthy discussion Mr. DiBello amended his motion to state that the budget be advertised for a total budget of \$145,221,260 or a tax increase of 2.72%. Mr. Ciresi seconded the motion.

Mr. Dehnert commented that he believes we are going in the wrong direction and we will have a budget that will be leading the Philadelphia Area in increase in spending and will have a pretty significant tax increase that he does not think he has seen with other districts. Mr. Dehnert stated that we are ahead of the pack and we are increasing expenses and particularly people on fixed incomes will have to pay more in taxes because we think we can just increase taxes to any amount that we want.

Mr. Pettit stated that this is not the final budget.

Mr. DiBello commented that we are trying to get a number together so that we at least know where we are going. Mr. DiBello stated that he is not trying to raise taxes on people as all he is trying to do is get the Board to a point where we can advertise the budget. He added that they have 30 days to figure out what they need to do and then they will come up with something in June and pass the budget. Mr. DiBello said right

now they are doing a disservice as they are all over the place. He stated that this is the worst process in the 6 years he has been on the Board.

The motion passed 6-1 with Mr. Dehnert voting no.

***NEW ADDITIONS SINCE THE WORK SESSION**

- 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.
- B. Checks:
 1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session
 - April

Check No. 157136 – 157210	\$ 262,337.75
ACH 141500528 – 141500536	\$ 2,409.32
 - May

Check No. 157211 – 157350	\$1,408,780.59
ACH 141500537 – 141500545	\$ 1,537.72
 2. Athletic Fund
 - April

Check No. 307964 – 308221	\$ 36,372.01
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 3. *Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting
 - *May

*Check No. 157351 – 157401	\$ 204,080.38
*Check No. 157402 – 157417	\$ 5,500.00
*ACH 141500546 – 141500549	\$ 357.21
 4. *Board Checks held for approval
 - *May

*Check No. 157418 – 157442	\$ 46,705.69
*ACH 141500550 – 141500584	\$ 13,512.64
- C. The Board approved the following independent contracts:
 1. **Lyndi Puleo – Phoenixville, PA.** Provide Psychological Services during the 2015-2016 school year for special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 22.5 hours per week for 40 weeks at a rate of \$75.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$67,500.00.
 2. **Cynthia Kline-Moser – Jeffersonville, PA.** Provide Physical Therapy Services for the Extended School Year Program to special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 175 hours at a rate of \$65.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$11,375.00.

3. **Austill's Rehabilitation Services, Inc. – Exton, PA.** Provide Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy Services for the 2015-2016 school year for special needs students attending outside of the district placements. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$4,000.00.
4. **Hideaway Day Camp – Collegeville, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 8 weeks at a rate of \$400.00 per week. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$3,200.00.
5. **Chesterbrook Academy – Phoenixville, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 6 weeks at a rate of \$240.00 per week. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$1,440.00.
6. **Hannah Aune – Phoenixville, PA.** Provide 1-1 Direct Applied Behavior Analysis Services during the Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 30 hours per week for 10 weeks at a rate of \$25.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$7,500.00.
7. **Amy McGinnis – Collegeville, PA.** Provide Applied Behavior Analysis Training during the Extended School Year Program for special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 24 hours per month for 2 months at a rate of \$95.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$4,560.00.
8. **Melissa Yonchuk – Collegeville, PA.** Provide Behavior Specialist Support during the Extended School Year Program for special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for a total of 65 hours at a rate of \$70.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$4,550.00.
9. **Lapreziosa Occupational Therapist Services – Pottstown, PA.** Provide Occupational Therapy during the Extended School Year Program for special needs students as per their IEPs. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$21,157.00.
10. **Variety Club Camp & Developmental Center – Worcester, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 8 weeks for a total cost of \$4,875.00. In addition, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy plus a 1-1 assistant will be provided at a total cost of \$7,110.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$11,985.00.
11. **Variety Club Camp & Developmental Center – Worcester, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Programs for 5 special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 6 weeks at a total cost of \$18,125.00. In addition, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy will be provided

at a total cost of \$12,960.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$31,085.00.

12. **Variety Club Camp & Developmental Center – Worcester, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 8 weeks at a total cost of \$4,875.00. In addition, Speech Therapy will be provided at a total cost of \$720.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$5,595.00.
 13. **Lindamood Bell Learning Center – Bryn Mawr, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 100 hours at a rate of \$116.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$11,600.00.
 14. **Forgotten Friend, Inc. – Manheim, PA.** Provide two science assemblies entitled “Reptile Explorers” for students at Upper Providence Elementary. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$550.00.
 15. **Roots & Wings – Bryn Mawr, PA.** Provide a workshop for Upper Providence Elementary Staff entitled “Intro to Mindfulness”. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$950.00.
- D. The Board approved continuing with the legal services, for the 2015-2016 school year, of Fox Rothschild LLP at a blended hourly rate of \$195.00 per hour for those services listed in the agreement. Items not covered under the agreement of services letter will be billed at the established rates under the Miscellaneous Matters and Rates as outlined in Fox Rothschild’s agreement.
- E. The Board approved the renewal of the contract with Optimo Information Technology, LLC for support of the Spring-Ford Area School District Application (App) for the iPhone and Android Smart Phones. The total cost for this contract shall not exceed \$6,950.00 and shall be paid from the Technology Budget.
- F. The Board approved the Western Montgomery Career and Technology Center’s 2015-2016 Budget in the amount of \$5,320,820.00. Spring-Ford’s share of the cost is \$1,429,241.00 or an increase of \$147,804.00 (11.53%) from last year’s budget. The district’s contribution calculation is based on the 5-year average ADM ratio.
- G. The Board approved the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

APRIL

Check No. 12092 – 12111

\$ 288,010.90

- H. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits**:

Permits No. 5211 – 5305

- I. The Board approved the following bid awards for Custodial Supplies and Equipment, district-wide, for the 2015-2016 school year. Bids were due April 9, 2015. Bid awards are as follows:

AGF Company	\$ 1,476.97
Franklin Chemical & Equip.	\$ 4,919.05
Hillyard – Delaware Valley	\$ 21,082.60
Northeast Chemical & Supply	\$ 15,165.50
Penn Jersey Paper Co.	\$ 2,050.30
Pennsylvania Paper & Supply	\$ 15,160.72
Philip Rosenau Co., Inc.	\$ 2,160.50
Pyramid School Products	\$ 5,052.68
Singer Equipment Co. Inc.	\$ 941.05
Zimmerman Sanitary Supply Inc	<u>\$ 19,500.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 87,509.37

- J. The Board approved the following bid awards for the MCIU Cooperative Purchasing Bid – Copier Paper for the 2015-2016 school year. Bids were due February 11, 2015. Bid awards are as follows:

CPG Contract Paper Group, Inc.	\$ 426.60
Lindenmeyr Munroe	\$ 2,370.50
Office Basics	\$ 763.60
Paper Mart	\$ 19,568.02
W.B. Mason, Inc.	<u>\$102,332.81</u>
TOTAL	\$125,461.53

NEW FINANCE

- K. The Board approved the Proposed Final Budget for the 2015-2016 school year in the amount of \$145,221,260.00. The proposed final budget must be approved thirty (30) days prior to the final budget adoption scheduled for June 25, 2015. The proposed final budget will be available for public inspection twenty (20) days prior to the date of the meeting at which the proposed final budget will be considered for approval as the final budget.
- L. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market – April 2015
- PSDLAF – April 2015
- PSDMAX – April 2015
- Checking Account – April 2015
- PLGIT Account – April 2015
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule – April 2015
- Payroll Account – April 2015
- Tax Account – April 2015

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – April 2015

- 7th Grade Activity – April 2015
- 8th Grade Activity – April 2015
- High School Activity – April 2015
- Athletic Account – April 2015

Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – April 2015

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – April 2015
- Debt Service Fund – April 2015
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – April 2015

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – April 2015
- Cafeteria Checking Account – April 2015
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – April 2015
- Investment Account – April 2015

- M. The Board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **MAY** in connection with the **CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT – Fund 32:**

1. *Blackboard	Software & Cloud	
	Technology	\$ 5,000.00
	TOTAL	\$ 5,000.00

VIII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

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

- A. The Board approved a contract with SimplexGrinnell to install security cameras in the district's elementary school buildings. This installation is in accordance with the recommendations set forth in the Security Vulnerability Assessment conducted by Integrated Security Systems in 2014. This project will be completed through their proposal as per the National Joint Powers Alliance contract #031913SGL. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve and shall not exceed \$193,858.00.

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

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

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

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Cheryl Traub**, Administrative Assistant, to attend "*Microsoft Excel for Data Quality Checking – Session 1 and Session 2*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on July 22, 2015. The total cost for this conference is \$130.00 (registration) from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

5TH/6TH GRADE CENTER

- B. **Agnes Wright**, Teacher, to attend "*Wilson Just Words*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on July 22, 2015 and July 23, 2015. The total cost for this conference is \$466.38 (registration and mileage) from the Special Education Budget. No substitute is needed.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mrs. Spletzer asked if there was a cost for Item A and the response was no. She asked where the student would stay and Dr. Goodin advised that a host family is secured by CCI and the student would live with the host family while attending school here.

Mr. Jackson asked why this needed to be Board approved and Mr. Berman advised that without Board approval the student cannot attend Spring-Ford as she is not a resident here.

The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved the admission of **Ottavia Mazzucco**, a foreign exchange student, for the 2015-2016 school year. Ottavia is from Italy and is sponsored by CCI (Center Cultural Interchange).

XI. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

There were not comments from the public.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Spletzer seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary



SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

857 SOUTH LEWIS ROAD, ROYERSFORD, PA 19468

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. David R. Goodin
Superintendent

Dr. Allyn J. Roche
Assistant Superintendent

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark P. Dehnert
Board President

Thomas J. DiBello
Board Vice President

Joseph P. Ciresi
Region III

Willard D. Cromley
Region I

Dawn R. Heine
Region II

Clinton L. Jackson
Region II

Bernard F. Pettit
Region I

Kelly J. Spletzer
Region I

Todd R. Wolf
Region II

RESOLUTION 2015-11

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Colin Crosbie member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team and Spring-Ford Boys' Track Head Coach Danielle Stauffer and Assistant Coaches, Jack Kraynak and Matt Varaday and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference and,

Whereas, Colin Crosbie, member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team, under the guidance, leadership, and direction of their coaches was able to win the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' 400 Meter Championship and,

Whereas, Spring-Ford High School's Colin Crosbie, won the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' 400 Meter with a time of 50.92 and,

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the student-athletes and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, the goals achieved by the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' 400 Meter Champion Colin Crosbie, demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, good-will, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in being a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **18th** day of **May**, **2015**.

By: _____
Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

By: _____
Mark P. Dehnert
School Board President



SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Region II

Clinton L. Jackson
Region II

Bernard F. Pettit
Region I

Kelly J. Spletzer
Region I

Todd R. Wolf
Region II

RESOLUTION 2015-12

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Aleigha Johnson, a member of the Spring-Ford High School Girls' Track Team and Spring-Ford Girls' Track Coach Danielle Stauffer and assistant coach, Geoff Kahler and

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Girls' Track team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference and,

Whereas, Aleigha Johnson, a member of the Spring-Ford High School Girls' Track Team, under the guidance, leadership, and direction of her coaches was able to win the Pioneer Athletic Conference Girls' High Jump and,

Whereas, Spring-Ford High School's Aleigha Johnson won the Pioneer Athletic Conference Girls' High Jump with a height of 5 feet 1 inch and,

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the student-athletes and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, and the goals achieved by the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference Girls' High Jump Champion, Aleigha Johnson, demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, good-will, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in being a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **18th** day of **May, 2015**.

By: _____
Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

By: _____
Mark P. Dehnert
School Board President



SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

857 SOUTH LEWIS ROAD, ROYERSFORD, PA 19468

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Dawn R. Heine
Region II

Clinton L. Jackson
Region II

Bernard F. Pettit
Region I

Kelly J. Spletzer
Region I

Todd R. Wolf
Region II

RESOLUTION 2015-13

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Brandon Leacraft, a member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team and Spring-Ford Boys' Track Head Coach Danielle Stauffer and Assistant Coach, Richard Fraker and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference and,

Whereas, Brandon Leacraft, a member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team, under the guidance, leadership, and direction of his coaches was able to win the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Javelin Championship and,

Whereas, Spring-Ford High School's Brandon Leacraft won the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Javelin with a throw of 180 feet and 2 inches and,

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the student-athletes and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, and the goals achieved by the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Javelin Champion, Brandon Leacraft, demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, good-will, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in being a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **18th** day of **May, 2015**.

By: _____
Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

By: _____
Mark P. Dehnert
School Board President



SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

857 SOUTH LEWIS ROAD, ROYERSFORD, PA 19468

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. David R. Goodin
Superintendent

Dr. Allyn J. Roche
Assistant Superintendent

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark P. Dehnert
Board President

Thomas J. DiBello
Board Vice President

Joseph P. Ciresi
Region III

Willard D. Cromley
Region I

Dawn R. Heine
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Clinton L. Jackson
Region II

Bernard F. Pettit
Region I

Kelly J. Spletzer
Region I

Todd R. Wolf
Region II

RESOLUTION 2015-14

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Paul Power a member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team and Spring-Ford Boys' Track Head Coach Danielle Stauffer and Assistant Coaches, Heather Giovagnoli and Brian Sullivan and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference and,

Whereas, Paul Power, member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team, under the guidance, leadership, and direction of their coaches was able to win the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' 1600 Meter Championship for the second consecutive year and,

Whereas, Spring-Ford High School's Paul Power, won the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' 1600 Meter Run with a school record time of 4:13.35 and,

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the student-athletes and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, the goals achieved by the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' 1600 Meter Champion Paul Power, demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, goodwill, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in being a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **18th** day of **May, 2015**.

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RESOLUTION 2015-15

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Paul Power a member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team and Spring-Ford Boys' Track Head Coach Danielle Stauffer and Assistant Coaches, Heather Giovagnoli and Brian Sullivan and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference and,

Whereas, Paul Power, member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team, under the guidance, leadership, and direction of their coaches was able to win the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' 3200 Meter Championship for the second consecutive year and,

Whereas, Spring-Ford High School's Paul Power, won the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' 3200 Meter Run with a time of 9:41.98 and,

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the student-athletes and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, the goals achieved by the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' 3200 Meter Champion Paul Power, demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, good-will, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in being a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **18th** day of **May**, **2015**.

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Todd R. Wolf
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RESOLUTION 2015-16

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Milan Sharma, Chris Fennimore, Evan Horrocks, and Paul Power members of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team and Spring-Ford Boys' Track Head Coach Danielle Stauffer and Assistant Coaches, Jack Kraynak, Matt Varady, Heather Giovagnoli and Brian Sullivan and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference and,

Whereas, Milan Sharma, Chris Fennimore, Evan Horrocks, and Paul Power, members of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team, under the guidance, leadership, and direction of their coaches was able to win the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' 4x800 Meter Relay Championship and,

Whereas, Spring-Ford High School's Milan Sharma, Chris Fennimore, Evan Horrocks, and Paul Power, won the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' 4 x 800 Meter Relay with a time of 8:05.21 and,

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the student-athletes and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, the goals achieved by the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' 4 x 800 Meter Relay Champions of Milan Sharma, Chris Fennimore, Evan Horrocks, and Paul Power, demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, good-will, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in being a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **18th** day of **May, 2015**.

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RESOLUTION 2015-17

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Chad Smiley, a member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team and Spring-Ford Boys' Track Head Coach Danielle Stauffer and Assistant Coach, Rich Loughhead and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference and,

Whereas, Chad Smiley, a member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team, under the guidance, leadership, and direction of his coaches was able to win the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Pole Vault Championship and,

Whereas, Spring-Ford High School's Chad Smiley won the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Pole Vault with a jump of 12 feet and 0 inches and,

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the student-athletes and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, and the goals achieved by the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Pole Vault Champion, Chad Smiley, demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, good-will, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in being a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **18th** day of **May, 2015**.

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Todd R. Wolf
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RESOLUTION 2015-18

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Spring-Ford Boys' Track Coach Danielle Stauffer and her Assistant Coaches Geoff Kahler, Rich Loughhead, Jamie Gray, Richard Fraker, Brian Sullivan, Heather Giovagnoli and Jack Kraynak, and Matt Varady for winning the Pioneer Athletic Conference Championship with a league record of 8 wins and 1 loss and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team under the guidance, leadership, and direction of both its coaches and captains was able to win the PAC 10 Championship Meet and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys Track Team won their fourth consecutive Championship with an overall record of 8-1 and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team's members all contributed and played a significant role in having a successful and outstanding track and field season and,.

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the players and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, the goals and the new records set by the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, good-will, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **18th** day of **May, 2015**.

By: _____
Diane M. Fern
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School Board President



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RESOLUTION 2015-19

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Patrick Pascual, a member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Tennis Team, and Spring-Ford Boys' Tennis Head Coach John Brennan and his Assistant Coach Jeff Rinehimer.

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Tennis team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Tennis Team member Patrick Pascual, under the guidance, leadership, and direction of its coaches, was able to win the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Tennis Singles Championship for the second consecutive year and,

Whereas, Spring-Ford High School's Patrick Pascual won the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Tennis Championship by scoring 7-5, 6-1 in the championship match,

Whereas, Spring-Ford High School's Patrick Pascual also qualified for PIAA District One Boys' Tennis Tournament,

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the student-athletes and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, the goals set by the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Tennis Champion Patrick Pascual, demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, good-will, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in being a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **18th** day of **May, 2015**.

By: _____
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Todd R. Wolf
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RESOLUTION 2015-20

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Patrick Pascual and Terrance Cruickshank, members of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Tennis Team, and Spring-Ford High School Head Boys' Tennis Coach John Brennan and his Assistant Coach Jeff Rinehimer and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Tennis Team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Tennis Team members, Patrick Pascual and Terrance Cruickshank, under the guidance, leadership, and direction of its coaches, were able to win the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Tennis Doubles Championship and,

Whereas, Spring-Ford High School's Patrick Pascual and TJ Cruickshank won the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Tennis Championship by scoring 6-3, 6-3, in the championship match and,

Whereas, Spring-Ford High School's Patrick Pascual and TJ Cruickshank also qualified for PIAA District One Boys' Tennis Tournament and,

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the student-athletes and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, and the goals set by the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Tennis Doubles Champions Patrick Pascual and TJ Cruickshank, demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, good-will, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in being a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **18th** day of **May, 2015**.

By: _____
Diane M. Fern
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Mark P. Dehnert
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RESOLUTION 2015-21

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Spring-Ford Baseball Coach Bruce Brobst and his Assistant Coaches Ryan Souder, Jamie Scheck and volunteer coaches, Michael Heffernan and Tim Krause for winning the Pioneer Athletic Conference Championship with a league record of 14 wins and 6 losses,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Baseball Team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Baseball Team under the guidance, leadership, and direction of both its coaches and captains was able to win the PAC 10 Final Four Semi-finals over Boyertown 9-4 and the PAC 10 Final Four Championship Game over Owen J. Roberts by a score of 7-2,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Baseball Team won their seventh PAC 10 Championship and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Baseball Team's varsity and junior varsity players all contributed and played a significant role in having a successful and outstanding baseball season.

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the players and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, the goals and the new records set by the Spring-Ford High School Baseball Team demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, good-will, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **18th** day of **May, 2015**.

By: _____
Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

By: _____
Mark P. Dehnert
School Board President



SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Todd R. Wolf
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RESOLUTION 2015-22

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Spring-Ford Boys' Lacrosse Coach Kevin Donnelly and his Assistant Coaches Dan Monzo, Kevin Czapora, Bryan Capone and Bjorn Ullman for winning the Pioneer Athletic Conference Championship with a league record of 16 wins and 0 losses and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Lacrosse Team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Lacrosse Team under the guidance, leadership, and direction of both its coaches and captains was able to win the PAC 10 Final Four Semi-finals over Methacton 12-4 and the PAC 10 Final Four Championship Game over Owen J. Roberts by a score of 8-7 and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys Lacrosse Team won their sixth PAC 10 Championship in school history and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Lacrosse Team's varsity and junior varsity players all contributed and played a significant role in having a successful and outstanding lacrosse season.

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the players and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, the goals and the new records set by the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Lacrosse Team demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, goodwill, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **18th** day of **May, 2015**.

By: _____
Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

By: _____
Mark P. Dehnert
School Board President



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RESOLUTION #2015-23

The Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education commends Zachary Dorsey, a member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team, and Spring-Ford Boys' Track Head Coach Danielle Stauffer and Assistant Coach, Richard Fraker and,

Whereas, the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track team is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference and,

Whereas, Zachary Dorsey, a member of the Spring-Ford High School Boys' Track Team, under the guidance, leadership, and direction of his coaches was able to win the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Shot Put Championship and,

Whereas, Spring-Ford High School's Zachary Dorsey won the Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Shot Put with a throw of 45 feet and 8.75 inches and,

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Education recognizes the coaching staff for creating a disciplined and caring environment for the student-athletes and,

Further resolved, that the achievements, the recognition, the accomplishments, and the goals achieved by the 2015 Pioneer Athletic Conference Boys' Shot Put Champion, Zachary Dorsey, demonstrated over and over throughout the season the toughness, good-will, sportsmanship, and all that is embodied in being a **SPRING-FORD RAM**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this **26th** day of **May**, **2015**.

By: _____
Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

By: _____
Mark P. Dehnert
School Board President

On April 20, 2015 the Work Session 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: Willard D. Cromley, Bernard F. Pettit and Kelly J. Spletzer

Region II: Dawn R. Heine, Clinton L. Jackson and Todd R. Wolf

Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi and Thomas J. DiBello

Presiding Officer: Mark P. Dehnert

Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin

Business Manager: Timothy Anspach

Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

Student Reps.: Taylor M. Auman and Dana K. Ludgate

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Taylor invited the Spring-Ford community to SNAP's Community Walk Through Night, this Saturday, April 25th from 6:30 to 9 p.m. He reported that Spring-Ford SNAP parent volunteers, with the support of the Spring-Ford community, have spent the past 10 months preparing for the annual SNAP Post-Prom Party. The 2015 Post-Prom theme is *Into the Unreal—Where Fantasy Becomes Reality*. Taylor thanked the volunteers and community members for all of the hard work and stated that Spring-Ford juniors and seniors will get to experience a night they'll never forget as the high school is transformed into a true fantasy land. He added that attendees will have a sweet experience in Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory, fly through Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, journey into Narnia and even travel to a galaxy far, far away. Taylor stated that he is looking forward to prom, and post-prom, as it will be one of the culminating experiences of his senior year. Taylor next reminded everyone that this week is the Spring-Ford 5K Run/Walk, which benefits the Senior Impact Awards. Taylor reported that he experienced this great celebration last week and would encourage everyone to participate in the 5K Run/Walk this Friday night. He stated that more information can be found on the district's main webpage.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

II. ACTION ITEM

Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Jackson seconded it. Dr. Roche presented a photo the proposed new floor. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board approved awarding a contract for the replacement of the Main Gym Wood Floors at the Senior High School to the lowest responsible bidder, **North Eastern Hardwood Floors, West Berlin, NJ**, pending approval of final paper-work, and accepted Alternate #1 to install epoxy flooring at the drinking fountain

areas for a base bid total of \$192,829.00 plus Alternate #1 for a total of \$740.00 for a grand total of \$193,569.00, rejecting all other bids. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Plan.

III. PRESENTATIONS

Mrs. Fern advised the Board that Dr. George had an emergency that he must attend to so he could not be here this evening. She stated that he will attend the May Work Session.

- A. **Dr. John George**, Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Executive Director, to discuss the Goals and Vision for the MCIU.

IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Rep. Report Taylor M. Auman/Dana Ludgate

Dana reported that last Thursday nostalgia bloomed at Spring-Ford's Annual Impact Awards where every senior had the opportunity to nominate any district employee that had made a positive impression on them during their school years. She stated that this posed a chance for students to show appreciation for all that the staff of Spring-Ford has contributed and what those contributions have truly meant. There were over one hundred students in attendance and the event was a smashing success. Dana next reported that the sale of tickets for the Walk the Red Carpet Junior/Senior Prom ended last Friday and registration for SNAP's Fantasy themed post prom is still ongoing. She announced that SNAP is hosting a Community Walk Through Night on the Saturday the 25th from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. for parents and community members. Dana announced that everyone is invited to play the arcade games, test out the inflatables, and write farewells to graduating seniors on the Wall of Fame all while the prom is underway at Drexelbrook. Dana commented that another momentous event that is soon to pass is Senior graduation which will take place on Thursday, June 11th at 7:00 p.m. come rain or come shine. An information packet with the necessary forms and answers to frequently asked questions can be found on the senior high school's homepage and any further questions can be directed at Mrs. Blackledge, the commencement coordinator. Dana reported that during May the Keystone Exams will commence and the High school will experience a scheduling change for the six days of testing. She added that finalized testing dates and sample assessments can be found on the high school's homepage.

WMCTC Ciresi, Cromley, Heine 1st Mon. 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Cromley reported that the WMCTC Joint Operating Committee met on April 13th. Mr. Moritzen was present and reported on enrollment numbers which showed that Spring-Ford's enrollment is at 173 students. Finalized enrollment numbers for the 2015-16 school year show 598 students to start the year. Spring-Ford will be sending 130 level one students with 41 being 9th graders, 111 level two and three students for a total of 241 which is 68 students for next year over our current enrollment figures. Mr. Cromley reported that on May 2nd there will be a car show and a Steve Bruno memorial dedication. Mr. Cromley reported that the last community dinner will be held on May 4th with a Star Wars theme. Mr. Cromley advised that Don Bray the auto technology instructor and two Spring-Ford students Connor Mason and Patrick Murphy will attend the Ford Motor and AAA Student Auto Skills State Finals on May 1st and 2nd at Northhampton Community College. Mr. Cromley reported that

Lisa Cassidy Lawler will be attending the 2nd Pennsylvania Project Lead the Way Foundation course in the Bio-Medical Science Program at Sinclair Community College in Ohio during the month of June. Mr. Cromley invited everyone to visit the technology home page on the WMCTC as it is designed to be a one stop shop for any technical questions. iPads and Apple televisions have been distributed to all teachers and installations are complete in every instructional classroom. Mr. Cromley reported on student success stories for those students from Spring-Ford attending the WMCTC. He announced that the WMCTC will hold its' Senior Recognition Night on May 19th at Pottsgrove Middle School.

Mr. Ciresi reported that at this meeting the budget was discussed and this year the budget shows a 6.6% increase. He stated that he believes we are heading back to where we used to be when Spring-Ford talked about leaving the Western Center. He stated that there is a \$40 million investment in the Western Center with \$20 million of that coming from Spring-Ford. He reported that the Superintendent of Pottsgrove had stated that there are classes now not full in her district and they shouldn't be putting money into the Western Center because the classes should be full in her district. Mr. Ciresi expressed his concerns on regressing and stated that there is a great JOC Board in place but 5 of the 9 members are up for re-election and 2 will not be returning. Mr. Ciresi stated that they have fought extremely hard to improve the Western Center, to send more kids to the Western Center, to make sure more programs are being offered at a higher level and to not make it a dumping ground which it once was from all three sending districts. Mr. Ciresi encouraged the Spring-Ford Board to sit in on the JOC meeting to hear the conversation that is taking place. He added that he does not feel it is fair to say that a district has empty classrooms due to kids attending the Western Center and the budget at the Western Center should be cut so that kids can be in their own district classrooms.

Dr. Goodin commented that the growth at the WMCTC needs to be supported and he is aware that other districts are struggling with budget issues. He stated that Spring-Ford is fortunate that we are not experiencing those same struggles. Mr. Ciresi pointed out again that there is a strong JOC Board and he also feels that they have a top notch executive director in place at the WMCTC.

Mr. DiBello stated that next year Spring-Ford will have 241 students at the Western Center and that hard work by the administration and support from the board has helped to increase our enrollment there. He added that we are here to provide education for all of our students. He stated that he struggles with the comment that another district want to slow the growth because they have more kids going to the Western Center and therefore have some empty classrooms. Mr. DiBello said he is not sure how this impacts what we are doing at the Western Center. He added that he had done the calculations previously and in prior years based on the investment and the number of kids we had going there our cost was roughly \$20,000 - \$25,000 per student per year and for us to get our enrollment numbers up to 240 kids then that means our overall cost per student is going down. Mr. DiBello commented that the problem we always run into is that there are 9 JOC Board Members and we only have 1/3 of the vote.

Mr. Jackson questioned the funding calculation and Mr. DiBello gave an explanation about the formula used to calculate the district's contribution, the expansion project and how Spring-Ford's share of the debt service was determined. Mr. Cromley stated

this all goes back to what Mr. DiBello said a few weeks ago regarding the surplus and the other two districts wanting their share of the surplus back. Mr. Jackson stated that the district is on the hook and cannot walk away due to our financial investment. Mr. Ciresi commented that there were talks previously of our district walking away and starting our own program but he is not advocating us walking away. Mr. Pettit stated that the district cannot walk away.

Mrs. Heine commented that the ramifications would be with the programs and the students would be affected. She stated that if we see a lack of growth from the other two districts then we are going to see less programs for our students. This will all affect what we are able to accomplish for our students in the long run.

Curriculum/Technology Dawn Heine 1st Tues. 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Heine reported that the Curriculum & Technology Committee met on April 12, 2015 and discussed the modernized learning pilot. The bi-weekly pilot meetings continue and it was stated that there have been some digital content hiccups and the fixes for these are being worked on. The next topic discussed was the Spring City Hybrid Learning Program and the data which showed how students performed on standardized tests once they had moved on from Spring City into higher grade levels. Mrs. Heine stated that this data will continue to be monitored. The committee discussed expanding the Hybrid Learning model into Royersford Elementary as this school was identified by administration as a potential place that would benefit from Hybrid Learning. The committee talked about conducting the expansion in a two-year phased approach with grades 1 and 2 being done during the 2015-2016 school year, grades 3 and 4 during the 2016-2017 school year and kindergarten classes to be modified to accommodate the ½ day program while still incorporating the Hybrid model. Mrs. Heine reported that the discussions have started with Mrs. Carboy and staff members about becoming a Hybrid Learning School and work is being done to ensure a smooth transition. She stated that the funding for the Royersford Expansion Project for the 2015-2016 school year would come partly from the refresh and funds leftover from the Ready to Learn Grant. The committee next discussed the technology refresh plan and Mrs. Heine provided the list of items to be purchased or leased as part of the refresh plan. She provided an overview of the purchase and lease plans for these items that were discussed. She stated that it is the Technology Department and the committee's recommendation to approve a lease agreement with ePlus Group, Inc. for student laptops, iPads, laptop charging carts, desktop computers and monitors. Mrs. Heine reported that the total equipment cost would not exceed \$800,000 which would be divided into 4 annual lease payments not to exceed \$215,600 and would be funded from the Technology Budget. Mrs. Heine stated that there is a motion on the agenda to approve staff for summer technology support in order to complete the refresh project.

Mr. Dehnert questioned rolling the Hybrid Learning model out into another building with only having two years' worth of data and no PSSA scores from those students who have been a part of the program in the grades we are looking to expand into. Dr. Goodin stated that the data we have is very strong and they had looked at a building that could benefit from an instructional strategy change and Royersford was the building that was identified for this. Dr. Goodin stated that this is obviously for the Board's approval on whether to move forward and if we are going to do this then we need to start laying the groundwork and we can be prepared to have a motion for this for next month's agenda. Dr. Goodin reported that funding for this is

in the Curriculum & Instruction Budget for next year. Mr. Dehnert stated that he would like to see a presentation of the data and commented that the Board saw PSSA scores from last year but questioned if there was any other data that they have not seen yet. Dr. Floyd responded that they have PSSA data and used growth data, and digital content data. Mr. Dehnert questioned why the Board has not seen any of the data on this yet. Dr. Floyd reported that the information was shared at the Curriculum meeting and Mrs. Heine stated that it had been shared at Board meetings as well. Mr. Dehnert stated that the Board saw some data two months ago but questioned making a decision on this with only two years' worth of data.

Mr. Pettit asked if Dr. Floyd felt that this program had a positive effect on the students at Spring City and Dr. Floyd replied he believes it has been very positive and teachers had reported that they would not want to go back to the former teaching methods as this model allows them to connect more strongly with their students.

Mrs. Spletzer asked if the Royersford teachers were able to visit Spring City and get a feel for the program and Dr. Floyd replied that this did occur and there were a lot of questions basically on the process. He stated that he along with Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Edmunds and Mrs. Carboy have met repeatedly to discuss this and he would have to say that there are still some questions as the teachers are trying to understand this conceptually and they are working to meet with everyone to answer the questions.

Mr. DiBello commented that this is based on the successes we have seen, the districts that have come and visited the program at Spring City, our district being at the forefront of this and the drop in scores at Royersford. He added that he does not want people to believe that there is a drastic change from the current education model being planned for Royersford Elementary. Mr. DiBello stated that what was implemented at Spring City was an educational model that incorporated many of the same concepts that have been used here at Spring-Ford as well as introduce technology into the classroom. Mr. DiBello commented that we have seen growth and he believes we will continue to see growth and he does not see why we would not move forward with this. He added that if this is the recommendation from the administration then the Board should get behind it.

Dr. Goodin added that in the elementary classrooms it is not unusual to have teachers break students up into learning stations and this is what is happening at Spring City. He stated that in the Hybrid model the work that the students do on the computers is directly delivered to the teachers so that by the time the student's group rotates around to work directly with the teacher he/she has some real-time data as to how each student is progressing. Dr. Goodin stated that when students move from the elementary building to the 5/6 Grade Center they do just fine as the students do not work all day in the small groups and there is still large group instruction taking place. The hybrid model is for math and language arts. Dr. Goodin said he fully expects the data to bear out the success that has been seen thus far. Dr. Goodin stated that if we are going to do this then it is going to take 6 months to get this up and running so this is not something that just gets switched on as it takes a lot of prep work and professional development. Dr. Goodin spoke about the funding for this expansion being put into the curriculum budget for next year.

Mr. DiBello questioned that if the timeline for this is roughly 6 months then why is it not being approved in April since it is the recommendation. Mr. DiBello stated that he does not understand why if a recommendation comes from the Curriculum Committee it does not get put on the work session agenda for discussion and then for a vote at the board meeting rather than push it out another month.

Dr. Goodin replied that he is not sure a month would back things up to the point where the work could not get done. He added that they have already been meeting with the teachers and working with them.

Mr. Pettit commented the sooner the better.

Mr. DiBello stated that if the committee is doing all the work and making a recommendation then it should have been on the agenda.

Dr. Goodin said he agrees with Mr. DiBello but they wanted to make sure they got through with the budget piece first. Dr. Goodin said it is in the curriculum budget but right now we have a budget that has not yet been approved.

Mr. Dehnert asked if it was sound practice based on educational research to make changes with only two years' worth of data. Mr. Dehnert questioned if there was any knowledge on Royersford's problems and why their scores dropped. He questioned if the district was treating something without knowing the cause. Mr. Dehnert stated that possibly this would not work as it could be the complexion of the children that has changed where there are more children at risk in the school than there was before. He asked what the reason was for the drop in scores at Royersford and if we had ever gotten to the bottom of that.

Dr. Goodin responded that he wanted to make it very clear that the School Performance Profile score at Royersford at 80 is still higher than most of the state elementary schools. Dr. Goodin said we are talking about Spring-Ford and we have very high SPP scores in our elementary schools and this building has a lower SPP score but yet one that is very respectable. Mr. Dehnert asked what the factors were for the lower scores. Dr. Goodin replied there are a variety of factors such as student demographics and the transient nature of some of the population as all of these come into play. Dr. Goodin again emphasized that even at a score of 80 Royersford is respectable.

Dr. Floyd added that the district receives federal funding under the Title I services and under the elementary division we currently have 2 schools who are eligible for these services and they are Spring City and Royersford. Dr. Floyd stated that it is not out of the ordinary for schools with Title I services. Dr. Floyd commented that they do know that the Hybrid Model has proven to be effective and there have been many who are trying to replicate what we have done.

Mr. DiBello cautioned that he does not want to give the impression that Royersford is failing as an elementary school. He added that Spring City was a school that was significantly struggling and we needed to do something there to make them successful. Mr. DiBello stated that the Board has talked over the past couple of year about taking what they have seen as a success and migrating it into other elementary schools as well as their discussions on infusing technology into the classroom. He stated that he does not want to give the impression that they are not

doing this because Royersford is on a path to destruction but rather taking what they are doing at Spring City and moving it into another school. He reported that the Spring City staff and parents are thrilled with the successes they have seen.

Mrs. Spletzer agreed with Mr. DiBello's comments saying she has 2 kids at Royersford right now and 1 in 8th grade who had gone through Royersford and she believes their quality of education was excellent. Mrs. Spletzer stated that she does not believe there is one factor that led to a drop in test scores.

Mr. Dehnert commented that he wanted to make sure that we have a long enough track record to make a big change like this. He added that if this was not a big change then why would we do it. He stated that the bottom line is that if we are going to make a change that is something different he wants to make sure we are cautious enough that we have more than a 2 year track record and enough time to train the teachers as 6 months does not seem like enough time for training.

Mr. Pettit stated that the problem exists if you keep pushing this off waiting for another study to be done then it is just another way of atrophying the system and not getting it into place is a disadvantage to the students at Royersford who could benefit from the Hybrid Learning System. Mr. Pettit commented that Mr. Edmunds and the staff at Spring City have really done a fantastic job with this and he believes the same thing will happen at Royersford.

Mr. Wolf commented that this has proven to be an enhancement. Mr. Wolf reported that he just attended the advocacy forum for PSBA and Hybrid was all they talked about and Dr. Goodin was mentioned in one of the bulletins. Mr. Wolf stated that this is definitely an enhancement to something we have already been doing as it is helping the teachers and engaging the kids. Mr. Wolf commented that he does not see what is wrong with that.

Dr. Goodin reported that this is being looked at this implementation as a 2 stage configuration; first in the primary grades and then later in the secondary grades. Dr. Goodin stated that there is a training schedule that has been established with professional development for the teachers as this is paramount. Dr. Goodin said it is important that the teachers are comfortable with doing this type of station learning and rotation in class model. Dr. Goodin indicated that this has all been laid out and preliminary talks at Royersford have begun. He added that this has been put into the budget for next year but if the Board wants to move forward with this for next Monday then he will put a motion on the agenda or if the Board would prefer to wait until after the Finance Committee meeting then we will wait until May. Dr. Goodin stated that either way there will be enough time to get the work done.

Mrs. Heine reiterated that the money for this is coming from the computer refresh and the leftover money from the Ready to Learn Grant. Mrs. Heine stated that they are not talking about changes to the budget for the first phase of implementation. Mrs. Heine said she would like to see this get onto the agenda so that they can move forward.

Mr. DiBello agreed and said he would like to see this on next week's agenda.

Extracurricular
Report next week

Tom DiBello

2nd Mon. 6:00 p.m.

Policy**Will Cromley****2nd Mon. 7:00 p.m.**

Mr. Cromley reported that the Policy Committee met April 13, 2015 and discussed Policy 916 - Community Volunteer which went from 2 pages to 23 pages. The policy should be prepared for School Board review for next month's meeting. Dr. Roche confirmed that the policy that went from 2 to 23 pages was Policy 216 - Student Records and that the Community Volunteer Policy was being revised due to the change in clearance requirements. Mr. Cromley reported that the committee discussed Policy 006 - Meetings with regards to the allowance of board members to remotely attend monthly school board meetings and the number of times this would be allowed. Policies 317- Administrative Employees, Policy 417 – Professional Employees, and Policy 517– Classified Employees drafts are being reviewed and Act 24 reference will be included. Mr. Cromley reported that the draft for Policy 222 – Tobacco Use was being reviewed and the draft for Policy 227 – Drug Abuse was being reviewed to incorporate electronic cigarette and drug paraphernalia into the policies. Policy 216, Policy 137, Policy 121 drafts have been created and we are now awaiting PSBA to provide direction as to the relationship to Act 196 changes that impact all school districts state-wide. Mr. Cromley reported that Act 196 of 2014 deals with the evaluation process for granting high school diplomas. The committee also touched on Policy 810 – Transportation with regards to school transportation vehicles not being routed over undedicated roads or roads deemed otherwise inappropriate for school bus operation. Mr. Cromley stated that review of this will be an undertaking of approximately 10-15 months in order to investigate all residential developments throughout the district to clearly delineate all aspects to be considered within the current policy. Mr. Cromley reported that administration gave a comprehensive review of the current transportation guidelines for local districts within the surrounding counties. Mr. Cromley stated that there is already criteria in place to establish bus stops and this information will be reviewed and shared at the next Policy Committee meeting. Mr. Cromley added that administration was asked to explore guidelines within the transportation area and come back with a review of the criteria to establish our school district perspective on bussing and practices in developments at all locations throughout the school district. Mr. Cromley noted that in all discussions going forward safety, undedicated roads, gated communities, private roads, and all other aspects will be under review.

Mr. Pettit commented that he does not understand this taking 10-15 months to devise a plan. Mr. Pettit felt this should be easily done so that we can have a policy in place to keep these kids safe and off the roads where we can. Mr. Pettit stated that this was like kicking the can down the road again. He questioned what would happen if a kid was run over while trying to cross the highways because we did not move on having this thing done. Mr. Pettit stated that there is no excuse to wait 10-15 months and study this thing to death as it could be and should be done easily; well before the start of the next school year.

Mr. Jackson stated that reviewing every development takes time and he does not see an issue with us doing our due diligence. He felt that criteria needed to be established and then developments evaluated to determine if they fit the criteria. Mr. Pettit stated that he felt that we should be able to implement this for this development. Mr. Jackson felt that we need to come up with a district-wide determination and evaluation.

Mr. DiBello said it is important to note that this is not just Rivercrest but we have had several developments over the years that have come to administration and asked that the busses come through their development. Mr. DiBello stated that he feels we need to look at the policy and identify criteria that makes sense. Mr. DiBello said he struggles

with the idea that it will take 6 months to come up with a criteria. He suggested coming up with a criteria and test running it in some developments, seeing what impacts it has and learning from it. Mr. DiBello stated that at the end of the day it is about the safety of our students.

Mr. Jackson said he has no issue with Mr. DiBello's suggestion if transportation feels they can do this in the allotted time. He cautioned that we are almost at the end of the school year. Mr. Pettit said he does not feel anyone is contemplating this being done in the next 36 days but certainly before the next school year.

Mrs. Spletzer commented that if we do not have it mapped out by September then bus schedules are not normally changed after school starts.

Mr. Dehnert suggested the district contact a consulting firm that deals with transportation reviews based on both safety and economics. Mr. Dehnert felt that a firm of this sort might be able to make the routes more efficient while looking at the safety aspects. Mr. Dehnert stated that he is in the process of getting the name of the contact person for Dr. Goodin to get in touch with. Mr. Dehnert stated that a company like this may be able to fast track the process and not just provide more safety but also potentially reduce transportation costs at the same time.

Mr. Jackson stated that everyone is concerned with safety but if we come up with a policy based on one development then we are going to be revisiting this again and again and again.

Mr. DiBello questioned the hiring of a consulting company and felt that we continue to come up with excuses on why we do not want to do something. He stated that he sees no reason why we cannot start on this now as we have good experienced people in our Transportation Department.

Mr. Jackson asked what the district's need is whether it is to address one development now or district-wide. Mr. DiBello replied that we are talking about developing criteria on what does and does not make sense over time and we can make some changes now and changes that will continue to evolve. Mr. Jackson said he supports this approach

Mr. Dehnert commented that he sees no harm in talking to a consulting firm to see what they offer and what their services are. He stated that we do not have to buy anything until we hear what they have to say. Mr. Jackson stated that he does not support going with a consultant at this point in time. He added that the Transportation Department has done a good job and we should give them first shot at doing this. He saw no reason to spend money for a consultant. Mr. Dehnert stated that there is no harm in hearing what the firm had to say. Mr. Pettit stated that this is a built in system for a delay.

Dr. Goodin urged the Board to focus on the policy which guides administrative decisions. He stated that administration is following that policy right now to the letter and there are reasons for us doing that. He agreed that there was a need address a bus stop issue where the students are crossing the road and that changes can be made regarding this for next year. He added that making a bus stop change does not require Board approval. Dr. Goodin indicated that they can pick up students door-side but stated that he felt the residents whose students will be picked up door-side will not be happy as they will be picked up 30 minutes earlier than they are currently being picked up. Dr. Goodin stated

that he is not aware of any district that is able to pick up every student door-side as you cannot run an efficient operation this way and sometimes students must cross a street. Dr. Goodin added that the district does their best with picking up students door-side as much as possible.

Mr. Ciresi commented that the question comes up regarding the policy change and the fact that it will require a significant increase in the budget. Mr. Dehnert disagreed and said we do not know this. Mr. Ciresi indicated that this was talked about at the Finance Committee meeting and the number suggested was \$750,000 – \$1,000,000. Mr. Dehnert said that is if we were to go into every development. Mr. Ciresi said there will be a significant increase in budget if we change the policy. Mr. Ciresi said he is all in favor of looking at the policy and changing it as safety is the main concern but does not agree with bringing in a consultant. Mr. Ciresi felt the Transportation Department was more than capable of handling this and stated that Mrs. Sanderson does a great job. Mr. Ciresi spoke about the budget being developed and that the Board should be prepared to put more money into it to cover any potential transportation changes. He added that he is not looking for an increase in the budget but surely wants to make sure every kid is safe.

Mr. Jackson asked Dr. Goodin's about his statement and if this is a change that could be made without the Board and Dr. Goodin replied that the change to the bus stop could be made. Dr. Goodin reported that currently we do not pick up door-side and that was due to the parent's request but next year we could go back to picking students up door-side. Dr. Goodin commented that what is being discussed is running a bus through a gated community on private roads that are full of golfers on golf carts. Dr. Goodin stated that he believes this is a liability to the district but it is ultimately a Board decision.

Mr. DiBello read from the minutes of the last meeting regarding comments made during the public comment section on the bussing situation. Mr. DiBello stated that the illusion was given that the Board was receptive to going into the Rivercrest Community. Mr. DiBello stated that this issue went back to the Policy Committee and was talked about. He indicated that he suggested that a criteria be established and those developments that fell into the criteria busses would travel into and those that did not the busses would not. Mr. DiBello indicated that the Finance Committee met the following night and this issue was discussed further. He stated that Mrs. Sanderson spoke about the costs that would be associated with going into developments and her prediction was the cost could be close to \$1,000,000 if you are accounting for every development. Mr. DiBello reported that he made the comment that he did not think we would be proceeding quite like that in a short period of time but we should budget for some amount of money in the upcoming budget. Mr. DiBello added that it was Mr. Jackson who suggested that it could always be budgeted for and if it is not needed then the money could be taken back out based upon what decisions are made over the next several months. Mr. DiBello commented that once the dollar figures started being discussed then those Board Members who were very supportive of going through Rivercrest at the previous Board meeting and in attendance at the Finance Committee meeting backed off saying if it is going to cost that much money then we need to rethink this. Mr. DiBello stated that he agrees with Mr. Pettit in that there is no reason why we cannot start to establish criteria in the next couple of months and then try and see what makes sense as we roll into the new school year. Mr. Pettit said he supports Dr. Goodin's comments on picking up door-side, in the meanwhile, so that the students are not crossing the road.

Mr. Jackson questioned whether the discussion was just about Rivercrest and Mr. DiBello replied that Rivercrest opened the door and he thinks that we should look at a criteria and see, in the short term, what developments we would like to use on a trial basis and then go from there. Mr. Jackson said he is okay with this and Rivercrest could be that trial. Mr. Jackson stated that for clarity, he went down to the township to view the engineer drawings to see what should be there according to the documents and what actually is there. Mr. Jackson reported that there are some inconsistencies but they can be addressed. Mr. Jackson said he is in support of creating a mock-up by the Transportation Department and see where we are from there.

Mr. Ciresi applauded Mr. Jackson's actions on doing due diligence before making comments about moving something forward without knowing all of the information. Mr. Ciresi expressed his hope that as a Board they do not make public comment on the way they are going to handle something until they are sure. Mr. Ciresi referenced an article in that appeared in the newspaper regarding the last Board meeting which gave the impression that Spring-Ford was going to change its' transportation policy. Mr. Ciresi stated that he is all in favor of moving forward with what Mr. DiBello just said but they are going to have to put more money into the budget to make sure we are covered under transportation. He commented that the amount needed will be for administration to determine and then for the Board to decide on.

Mr. Dehnert stated that we have one development that came to us with a safety issue that was brought to our attention and that is Rivercrest. Mr. Dehnert inquired if there were other developments where there are significant safety issues.

Dr. Roche replied that Mr. Dehnert you are making the assumption that there is a safety concern. He stated that there is a concern raised but from a Transportation standpoint an in working with Mrs. Sanderson and Mr. Anspach their belief is that the stops that are there are not unsafe. Dr. Roche stated that the stops are efficient and the changes will be made for next year and if Mrs. Sanderson were here she would tell you that stops door-side are probably safer than those inside developments as sometimes you have people coming from all different directions and creating all sorts of hazards that you can and cannot see. Dr. Roche stated that he just wanted to point out that we are making an assumption and someone has raised a concern and it has been looked at it will be addressed but not so much a safety concern that we are willing to wait until next year so as not to disrupt people's routines. Dr. Roche stated that we are making the assumption that it is so unsafe but yet we are okay with it having to go until the end of the year. Dr. Roche added that from the administrations opinion the door-side is the safest pick up.

Mr. Ciresi commented that if every stop was changed to a door-side stop then we would be adding extra expenses to the budget for things such as time being added to routes which then adds to fuel costs as busses will be out on the roads longer. Mr. Ciresi said that more money will still have to be put into the transportation budget even without going into developments.

Mr. Pettit read from the March 16th Work Session minutes with regards to Mr. Dehnert's comments and stated that he felt that Mr. Dehnert had shifted his opinions on this.

Mr. Dehnert asked if this was about him or about Rivercrest. He stated that it seemed like this was a concerted effort to make this his issue. Mr. Dehnert stated that he drove through Rivercrest and made an observation. He denied that he said that a policy change needed to be made. Mr. Dehnert commented that he does not get the concerted effort to

make this his issue. Mr. Dehnert stated that he has nothing to gain politically from Rivercrest being picked up as this is not his region. Mr. Dehnert said this is not an issue about politics as he had a conversation with Mr. Vagnozzi and safety concerns were brought to his attention. Mr. Dehnert indicated that he drove through Rivercrest to see what it looks like and to him it looked like a typical road in our school district. Mr. Dehnert said this is not about him and he does not see why they are trying to make it his issue and that he made some promise to Rivercrest. Mr. Dehnert stated that he said it should be looked at in policy and it was.

Mr. Pettit replied that Mr. Dehnert may not have made a promise but he certainly left an implication that this is something we could have taken care of for these residents who are very concerned. Mr. Pettit added that this has been going on for 6-8 years now and they unfortunately thought they had the assistance of the Board getting their issue resolved and apparently that shifted over the last month.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he pleads guilty to being concerned about the safety of students being picked up.

Mr. DiBello recapped that the Policy Committee met and there was conversation about what we could do and how long it would take. The Finance Committee met and talked that there could be some potential costs if changes are made. Mr. DiBello said he believes they need to establish criteria on what could be used as a determination on going into a development or not.

Mr. Jackson made a motion to start developing criteria for this activity and Mr. DiBello seconded it. Mr. Dehnert stated that he did not think a motion was needed to look at the policy. Mr. Jackson expressed frustration that they sit there and argue and argue and they do not have to get along but at the end of the day they need to function as a Board. Mr. Jackson stated that if they do not need a motion then they just need to move forward. Mr. Dehnert asked how long it would take administration to develop criteria for this and Dr. Roche replied that they will have a draft criteria ready for the May Policy Committee meeting.

Finance

Mark Dehnert

2nd Tues. 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Dehnert reported that the Finance Committee met on April 14, 2015 where Mr. Edward Murray was present to discuss the refunding of the bonds which will be voted on at next week's meeting. Mr. Dehnert stated that the refunding of the 2005 and 2007 bonds will yield a savings of \$1million per year for 3 years. The committee also reviewed the executive reports. They also discussed the transportation contract which expires one year from this June and this will be discussed further at the May meeting. The committee reviewed the per capita situation and talked about using the Berkheimer files for the per capita for the earned income tax. Discussion also took place on leasing computers and talked about whether we should lease or buy them. It was decided that for this round we will lease them and then take a longer look at possibly buying the next time if it makes more sense to take the money out of the Capital Reserve and self-fund this. Mr. Dehnert stated that we would have to have the discipline to replenish the money otherwise we would quickly burn through the Capital Reserve. Mr. Dehnert reported that the committee discussed the 2015-2016 budget and the tax increase continues to come down. Mr. Dehnert said the administration feels that we should be able to get down to the index of 1.9%.

Mr. DiBello interrupted saying emphatically that this not true as we are based at around 3% right now. Mr. Dehnert stated it was 2.46% and Mr. DiBello replied we are at 2.85% and there are additional positions that are being brought forward that are necessary for the district to hire. Mr. DiBello said that these positions could potentially have us go over 3%. Mr. DiBello stated that a false expectation is being set that we are going to be at or below index. Mr. DiBello said he is on the Finance Committee and he will not support that statement.

Mr. Dehnert stated that Dr. Goodin mentioned it at the end of the meeting and there was also a conversation before the meeting and at the end of the meeting he said we could get to 1.9%.

Mrs. Heine commented regarding the purchasing of computers and stated that this was looked at and it is a 4 year commitment to fund the process and not just a 1 year and replenish.

Mr. Dehnert stated that what we should be looking at is that we do have money in the Capital Reserve that we would have to have the discipline to take the amount of money we use each year for the yearly lease payment and budget it and pay it to the Capital Reserve.

Mr. DiBello stated that the recommendation from the Finance Committee was to lease this round of computers and then review this and under a new Finance Manager and then move forward and develop a strategy to see what that would look like in the future. Mr. DiBello accused Mr. Dehnert of making things up as they go along.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he did not make anything up and it was talked about that the next Business Manager or CFO will look at this issue for the next buy not this one. Mr. Dehnert said it is on the agenda to lease this round of computers and then look at whether we should continue that practice or take the money from the Capital Reserve.

Dr. Goodin stated that historically he has taken his direction from the full Board as far as what the index is and where we need to operate. Dr. Goodin said there are some staffing recommendations for next year and depending on where the Board wants us to be and the subsequent need of those staffing requests we could be anywhere between 0 % and 2.4%. Dr. Goodin said administration takes their lead from the Board on this and if they determine we need to be at the index then we will do our best to be at the index. Dr. Goodin again noted that they do have staffing recommendations

Mr. DiBello commented that what was presented at the Finance Committee meeting was that we were at 2.85% which included the staffing recommendation plus additional from the previous month of staffing that was required. Mr. DiBello asked Mr. Anspach if this statement was accurate and Mr. Anspach confirmed this was correct. Mr. DiBello stated that there is work to be done and additional funds will need to be budgeted for transportation costs. He added that we would like to be at index and even at zero but that is not reality at this point.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he knows Mr. DiBello is doing his best to get the tax increase high but basically the goal discussed was 1.9% and that is what we should be sticking to. Mr. Dehnert said he would like to see the administration get to 1.9% and this is what

has been done historically and he wants to see this done again. Mr. Dehnert stated that if Mr. DiBello wants to push for a higher tax increase then he will not support it.

Mr. Jackson stated that they really need to stop this.

Mr. DiBello said that Mr. Dehnert's statement was really ridiculous as all he is doing is reporting on the information that was presented at the Finance Committee meeting. He asked Mr. Anspach to correct him if he was wrong but the tax percentage presented was 2.85% and Mr. Anspach confirmed that was how the budget stood at that time. Mr. DiBello asked Mr. Anspach if he told him to increase the percentage up to 2.85% for a high tax increase and Mr. Anspach confirmed that this did not happen.

Mr. Dehnert stated that the number did say 2.46% and then there were additional items that were not even talked about before it was pushed up to 2.85%. Mr. DiBello said he did not add those as that was done by administration.

Mr. Anspach stated that what he had shown was a number of examples and the committee walked through that and based on Governor Wolf's proposal they had looked at showing the maximum of what he proposed and that would put the district at 2% or under 2%. Mr. Anspach stated that they all discussed that this was pretty risky so the figures were show with using half the amount of Governor Wolf's proposal and everyone felt that this was still too risky. Mr. Anspach stated that they then proposed using the amounts that were received in 2014-2015 for the 2015-2016 budget and that is what pushed it to 2.85%.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he had a conversation with Dr. Goodin prior to the meeting and was told that we could get to 1.9% and at the end of the meeting he asked Dr. Goodin again and this figure was confirmed. Mr. Dehnert stated that if Dr. Goodin told him something that was not true before the meeting then it is not consistent with what he said at the end of the meeting. Mr. Dehnert said 1.9% is his goal and he invited the full Board to come to the Finance Committee meeting so that a bigger look can be taken of the budget because if there are personnel items being added to the budget then we must really scrutinize them. Mr. Dehnert stated that the Board should be consistent with staying at the index as they have over the past several years.

Mrs. Spletzer suggested not having any presentations at the Finance Committee meeting and skipping the monthly executive reports so that there is more time to focus on the budget. Mr. Anspach suggested also that the Board consider looking at more than one hour for the meeting. The Board discussed the best time for the meeting to begin.

Mr. Jackson stated that he is okay with moving the Property Committee meeting to the following month in order to address this issue. He urged the Board to be more respectful of each other and listen to each other. Mr. Jackson reminded the Board that they are all colleagues.

Property
Report next week.

Clinton Jackson

2nd Tues. 8:00 p.m.

Community Relations
Report next week.

Todd Wolf

3rd Mon. 6:30 p.m.

MCIU

Report next week.

Tom DiBello

4th Weds. 7:00 p.m.

PSBA Liaison

Report next week

Todd Wolf

Asst. Superintendent Rpt. Dr. Allyn J. Roche

Dr. Roche reported that April is Autism Awareness Month and the Spring-Ford School District is celebrating this month in many ways. He invited everyone to come out on Wednesday April 29th to Rita's Water Ice in Collegeville or Royersford to see your favorite teachers and administrators, including Dr. Goodin, scooping water ice for a great cause. He stated that Rita's will donate a percentage of their proceeds on April 29th to the Spring-Ford Educational Foundation. Dr. Roche announced that May 1st is Academic Signing/Media Day for all Spring-Ford Area High School seniors. He stated that on May 1st Spring-Ford seniors and parents are invited to participate in a series of events including, a parent/student morning social, group student photo by college and for all Decision Day participants. The day will finish with an after school social and official signing time with photos and media opportunities. Dr. Roche added that more information will be shared with all seniors and the parents of seniors. He stated that the district is looking forward to making this an annual event and celebrate all students and their accomplishments. Dr. Roche reported that tomorrow, Tuesday April 21st, NOPE for Parents will be presented to the public at 7:00 p.m. in the High School 10-12 Grade Center auditorium. He advised that NOPE stands for Narcotics Overdose Prevention & Education. Dr. Roche stated that the talk tomorrow night will share facts regarding the issues our youth are facing each day, including prescription drug abuse, drug interactions, signs of substance use, and in addition parenting strategies and where to get help. Dr. Roche informed everyone that with prom taking place this weekend, all juniors and seniors will be participating in a pre-prom assembly to review basic logistics for the prom as well as a similar NOPE presentation geared toward the students. Dr. Roche concluded by inviting everyone to come out and support the Spring-Ford Educational Foundation 5K this Friday.

Mr. Ciresi asked about a presentation by the High School Guidance and Future Planning Center on the colleges that graduating seniors will be attending and Dr. Roche stated that this could be done at the June Board meeting.

Solicitor's Report

No report.

Mark Fitzgerald

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no questions.

- A. Administration recommends approval of the March 16, 2015 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A1)**
- B. Administration recommends approval of the March 23, 2015 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A2)**

VI. PERSONNEL

Mr. Cromley commented on the retirement of Alyce Gilhool stating that she was a long-time employee and he thanked her on behalf of the Board for her wonderful contributions throughout her service here. He next recognized John Podbielski saying that he had worked with him during his time at Spring City and John is a wonderful man who also provided many contributions in his employment here. Mr. Cromley thanked Mrs. Leiss for bring back Lauren Keifer as her expertise in the art area is top quality. He expressed appreciation to Mrs. Leiss for keeping Lauren's information on file so that they could go back and bring back a very qualified professional.

A. Resignations

1. **Alyce L. Gilhool**, Elementary Teacher, Limerick Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 17, 2015.
2. **John G. Podbielski**, Head Custodian, Spring City Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: July 9, 2015.

B. Professional Staff Employee

1. **Lauren Keifer**, Art Teacher; replacing Linda Crane who is retiring. Compensation will be set at BS, Step 10, \$56,200.00, with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 25, 2015.

C. Support Staff Employee

1. **Marlo A. Oslon**, Instructional Assistant, Upper Providence Elementary School; replacing Vincent M. Lanzilotti who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: March 27, 2015.

D. Support Staff Substitute

1. **Matthew C. Kirkpatrick** Athletic Trainer \$120.00/day

- E. Administration recommends approval of the following Registered Nurse to work 5 hours per day for the 2015 Extended School Year Program at a rate of \$30.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds.

1. **Suzanne Mosebrook**

- F. Administration recommends approval of the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2014-2015 school year. **(Attachment A3)**

- G. Administration recommends approval of the following Special Education Teachers to be hired for the 2015 Extended School Year – Professional Staff including: Fast Forward, Speech & Language Services, and Tutor Programs. Compensation will be set at \$30.00 per hour plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Brian W. Aikens | 16. Nancy A. McDonough |
| 2. Angela D. Allen | 17. Jessica A. Mecleary |
| 3. Gillian M. Arganetto | 18. Kelsey A. Metzler |
| 4. Jennifer A. Bowyer | 19. Megan L. Miller |
| 5. Krista M. Brooke | 20. Alyssa J. Palaia |
| 6. Daniel R. Butterweck | 21. John E. Raber |
| 7. April Collins | 22. Shana L. Savard |
| 8. Karen M. DeLange | 23. Erin M. Siuchta |
| 9. Brittany L. Dellaquila | 24. Jennifer P. Smith |
| 10. Stacy M. Eddinger | 25. Christopher R. Talley |
| 11. Katherine L. Helm | 26. Johannah M. Timbario |
| 12. Alice B. Hollingsworth | 27. Carol A. Vogt |
| 13. Christine M. Kramer | 28. Nicole A. Wake |
| 14. Gina L. Lasky | 29. Lindsay Yerkes |
| 15. Vanessa L. Mayer | 30. Crystal Zakszeski |

- H. Administration recommends approval of the following Support Staff to be hired for the 2015 Extended School Year Program. Compensation for new employees will be set at \$16.36 - \$18.15 per hour depending on experience and educational degree plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Regular hourly employee will be paid at their current Instructional Assistant hourly rate. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Nancy T. Birtch | 13. Colleen Kriebel |
| 2. Kara Borzillo | 14. Tiffany M. Landis |
| 3. Karlis Budkevics | 15. Matthew Marchini |
| 4. Maryann Christy | 16. April Mayes |
| 5. Janet T. Copenhagen | 17. Tara A. McGuirl |
| 6. Debra A. DeMitis | 18. Laura B. McQuaid |
| 7. Paula T. Donatelli | 19. Melanie A. Pierce |
| 8. Brian R. Fisher | 20. Sharon Ritson |
| 9. Angeline T. Fusco | 21. Leigh-Ann Simms |
| 10. Dallas Groshardt | 22. Terri L. Green-Stefanelli |
| 11. Cynthia Isabella | 23. Patricia A. Wynn |
| 12. Lynn Marie D. Keene | 24. Patricia Young |

- I. Administration recommends approval of the following teachers to be hired for the 2015 Cool School Program. Compensation will be set at \$30.00 per hour and will be funded through student tuitions. There will be no cost to the district.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Susan L. Albright | 12. Shannon A. Hetrick |
| 2. Megan Ames | 13. John Hughes |
| 3. Jennifer Basom | 14. Jean Marie Lare |
| 4. Kris R. Bautsch | 15. Jamie N. McGee |
| 5. Joanne D. Bailey | 16. Alyssa Palaia |
| 6. Emily A. Beiter | 17. Vincent L. Randle |
| 7. Maria Carroll | 18. Katherine J. Schneider |
| 8. Brittany Dellaquila | 19. Karen L. Schodle |
| 9. Anna E. Haring | 20. Kaitlyn Skrocki |
| 10. Keith A. Heffner | 21. David Susek |
| 11. Matthew Herner | 22. Sharon A. VonMinden |

VII. FINANCE

Mr. Cromley asked about the two independent contracts (#5 and #12) for nursing services and whether these are done through an RFP. Mrs. Raber stated that the contractors are chosen based on the best option suited for the student's needs.

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

B. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

March

Check No. 156781 – 156871	\$ 612,541.80
ACH 141500470 – 141500475	\$ 619.39

April

Check No. 156872 – 157049	\$1,981,959.95
ACH 141500476 – 141500491	\$ 3,028.17

2. Athletic Fund

March

Check No. 307862 – 307963	\$ 42,956.78
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- C. Administration recommends approval of the following **independent contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Associations, the Home and School Leagues, the Parent Teacher Associations and the Parent Teacher Organizations:

1. **PA Friends of Agriculture – Camp Hill, PA.** Provide 5 days of lab classes in a mobile agriculture educational science lab for students at Limerick Elementary. Funding will be paid by the Limerick Elementary Home & School League and shall not exceed \$2,000.00.
2. **Musicopia – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide an African Percussion and Dance performance for students at Royersford Elementary School. There is no charge for this performance.

- D. Administration recommends approval of the following independent contracts:

1. **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit – Norristown, PA.** Provide Assistant Business Manager services beginning April 7, 2015 through June 30, 2015. Services will be billed at a rate of \$400.00 per day and will be paid from the General Fund.
2. **Forgotten Friend, Inc. – Manheim, PA.** Provide two science assemblies during Earth Week entitled "Reptile Explorers". Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$500.00.

3. **The Martin Luther School – Plymouth Meeting, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget – IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$3,900.00.
4. **Dr. Lisa Hain – Narvon, PA.** Conduct a Neuropsychological Evaluation, provide a written report, and participate in the follow-up meeting for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$5,500.00.
5. **Personal Health Care, Inc. – Valley Forge, PA.** Provide Nursing Services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 7 hours per day for 68 days at a rate of \$44.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$20,944.00.
6. **Richard Weidner – Telford, PA.** Provide a Spring-Ford Transitional Employment Program (S.T.E.P.) during the 2015-2016 school year for students with special needs as per their IEPs. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$85,000.00.
7. **Education Alternatives – Limerick, PA.** Provide Direct Services and supervision of Applied Behavioral Analysis for a special needs student as per the IEP. Direct services will be provided for 12 hours per week for 35 weeks at a rate of \$30.00 per hour for a total of \$12,600.00. Applied Behavioral Analysis will be provided for 12 hours per month for 7 months at a rate of \$95.00 per hour for a total of \$7,980.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$20,580.00.
8. **Variety Club Camp & Developmental Center – Worcester, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Programs for 3 special needs students as per their IEPs. Programming services will be provided for 6 weeks at a total cost of \$10,875.00 for all 3 students. In addition, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy and a 1-1 Assistant will be provided at a total cost of \$5,310.00. The total cost for all 3 students for all services will be \$16,185.00 and will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds.
9. **Easter Seals of Southeastern PA – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 25 days at a cost of \$214.86 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$5,371.50.
10. **American Red Cross – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide CPR and First Aid Training for Special Education Instructional Assistants. Funding will be paid from the Medical Access Funds and shall not exceed \$7,300.00.
11. **Katherine Helm – Blue Bell, PA.** Provide specialized reading instruction for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 55 sessions at a rate of \$30.00 per session. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$1,650.00.

12. **PSA Healthcare – Reading, PA.** Provide nursing services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 20 hours per week for the remainder of the school year and for the Extended School Year Program at a rate of \$45.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$14,400.00.
13. **Pediatric Therapy Services – Conshohocken, PA.** Provide Psychological services due to a short term absence to assist the district with staying in compliance for special education evaluations. Services will be provided for 196 hours at a rate of \$68.50 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$13,426.00.
- E. Administration recommends approval of **Resolution 2015-07** for the issuance of bonds in one or more series with certain parameters to advance refund the District's General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2007, and currently refund the District's General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2005. (**Attachment A4**)
- F. Administration recommends approval of a confidential settlement agreement and release agreement **#2015-03** with the parents of a student in special education in the amount of \$14,061.60. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget.
- G. Administration recommends approval of the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

<u>MARCH</u>	
Check No. 12072 – 12091	\$ 222,813.36

VIII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

There were no questions.

- A. Administration recommends approval of the purchase of the Athletics Gateway System from SRC Solutions. Athletics Gateway is an online registration system that will allow parents and guardians to register students for Spring-Ford Athletic Programs. The system is planned to launch in June 2015 to facilitate registration for Fall 2015. The cost of the Athletics Gateway System is \$12,000.00 for the first year which will be paid from the 2014-2015 Technology Budget. The cost for the second year will be \$6,000.00 and will be paid from the 2015-2016 Technology Budget.
- B. Administration recommends the approval of a lease agreement with ePlus Group, Inc. for the purchase of student laptops, student iPads, laptop charging carts, desktop computers, and monitors. The total equipment cost shall not exceed \$800,000.00 and will be divided into four annual lease payments not to exceed \$215,600.00 per year. Funding will come from the 2015-2016 Technology Budget.
- C. Administration recommends the commitment of funds not to exceed \$18,000.00 to support the hourly wages of the District Support Technicians who will be working on the Summer of 2015 technology projects. Funding will be split between the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 Technology Budgets.

IX. PROPERTY

There were no questions.

- A. Administration recommends approval of a contract for Phase II of the carpet/tile replacement at Upper Providence Elementary School with **Continental Flooring**, through the NJPA Contract #022712 for a total cost of \$56,130.70. Funding will come from the 2015-2016 General Budget.
- B. Administration recommends replacing the old sports equipment van which is no longer road ready with the T1 transportation van. A new transportation van will be purchased through the Pennsylvania CO-Stars, Contract #25-009, replacing the T1 transportation van for a total cost of \$35,844.00. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Plan.
- C. Administration recommends approval to order a new transportation van replacing the T2 transportation van due to excessive mileage and age. The T2 Van will be turned over to the Maintenance Department replacing one of their older vans which is no longer road ready. The order must be placed at least (8) months in advance, due to the lengthy lead time for the new van. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Plan.
- D. Administration recommends approval to replace the roof at Royersford Elementary School due to age, wear and tear. The job will be coordinated by the Keystone Purchasing Network (KPN) through Tremco Roofing, Inc. The roof will be replaced during the summer of 2015. The cost of the project will be approximately \$1,150,000. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Plan.
- E. Administration recommends approval to purchase new LED efficiency lighting for the parking lot at the High School replacing the old high sodium pressure lighting due to the age and inefficiency. The lights will be purchased through Co-Stars Purchasing Agency, Quote # QT538461, for a total cost of \$83,209.00. This work will be completed over the summer of 2015. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Plan.
- F. Administration recommends approval to seek bids and award a contract for district-wide paving including the walkway areas around Coach McNelly Stadium. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Plan and shall not exceed \$150,000.00.
- G. Administration recommends approval to seek RFP's to receive pricing for concrete and paving repairs district-wide on a per square foot/linear foot as needed.
- H. Administration recommends approval to advertise and seek RFP's to dispose of non-road ready vehicles which are district owned.

X. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

There were no questions.

The following individuals are recommended for attendance at the following conferences and workshops:

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Bruce Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations & Facilities, to attend Session I of the PASBO Annual Conference on Tuesday, March 10, 2015. Mr. Cooper was previously Board approved at the January Board meeting to attend the sessions held from March 11 through March 13, 2015. Session 1 provided Mr. Cooper the chance to meet with directors from 5 area school districts on the topic of controlling costs for after hour district and non-district usage. The total cost for this additional session and lodging for the extra night was \$215.79 to be paid from the 580 account.

HIGH SCHOOL

- B. **Kristin Beideman**, Guidance Counselor/Department Chair, to attend the Montgomery County Counselors Association Program *"Mindfulness: Taking Care of Ourselves & Each Other"* in Collegeville, PA on the afternoon of May 8, 2015. The total cost for this program is \$25.00 (registration) to be paid from the 580 account.
- C. **Gwendolyn Phillips**, School Police Officer, to attend *"Planning the Active Shooter Drill"* at the Monmouth County Police Academy in Freehold, NJ on April 27, 2015. The total cost of this training is \$189.00 (registration) to be paid from the 580 account.

DISTRICT-WIDE

- D. **Wendy Taylor**, English/Language Arts Instructional Coach, to attend *"When Reading Meets Writing: TDA Grades 4-5"* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit on the afternoon of May 18, 2015. The total cost for this conference is \$45.00 (registration) to be paid from the 580 account.

5/6 GRADE CENTER

- E. **Gwen Chand**, Special Education Teacher, to attend *"Statewide Assistive Technology Consultants' Spring 2015 Network Training: Building AAC Capacity"* at PaTTAN in Harrisburg, PA on May 5, 2015 and May 6, 2015. The total cost of this conference is \$591.00 (transportation, lodging, meals and a substitute for 2 days) to be paid from the Ice for Autism Funds.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

There were no questions.

- A. Administration recommends approval for the Spring-Ford Area High School Boys' Basketball Team to accept the invitation to participate in the KSA (Kaylee Scholarship Association) Basketball Tournament, December 28, 2015 – January 1, 2016 in Orlando, Florida. The cost per student-athlete will be approximately \$999.00 plus

transportation. The High School Boys' Basketball Program and staff will conduct fundraising events to help defray the costs. There will be no cost to the school district. The games played are part of the 2015-2016 schedule which allows a maximum of 22 contests per PIAA by-laws. Student-athletes will not miss any school days and no substitutes for the coaching staff are needed.

- B. Administration recommends approval for a bench to be installed at Brooke Elementary in the Butterfly Garden Area as part of an Eagle Scout Project. There will be no cost to the District.
- C. Administration recommends approval of the revised 2015-2016 school calendar.
(Attachment A5)

XII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

There were no comments.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

On April 27, 2015 the 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: Willard D. Cromley, Bernard F. Pettit and Kelly J. Spletzer

Region II: Dawn R. Heine and Clinton L. Jackson

Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi and Thomas J. DiBello

Presiding Officer: Mark P. Dehnert

Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin

Business Manager: Timothy Anspach

Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

Student Reps.: Taylor M. Auman and Dana K. Ludgate

The following Board Member was absent: Todd R. Wolf

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Taylor announced that art work from more than 1,000 Spring-Ford students in grades 7-12 will be on display during the 2015 Spring-Ford Art Fest. He added that for more than 30 years, students in grades 7-12 have had the honor of publically displaying their work to the community during this annual event. Spring-Ford Area School District art teachers decide which student pieces will be submitted from work done throughout the year. Spring-Ford Area School District seniors submit their own work and a portfolio to be considered for the Senior Spotlight. The Art Fest will be held Friday, May 1st from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 2nd from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. here at Spring-Ford Area High School.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mike Rapp, Royersford Elementary Parent, stated that he is here to talk about what is happening with the school system. Mr. Rapp stated that it would have been nice to have a warning on what was happening rather than have a bunch of rumors spread around on Facebook and then a letter coming out via email the next day. Mr. Rapp requested the data from the program as Spring City Elementary in order to get a feel on how this is going to impact Royersford Elementary. Mr. Rapp commented that the teachers and support staff do a phenomenal job and he questioned how they were going to implement this and have it ready to go or would it be a learn as you go process. Mr. Rapp stated that he was not sure how the staff would have any free time as he has been in the classrooms and feels the staff are saints.

Sarah Schmalbach, Royersford Borough, wanted to speak about the changing of the K-2 grades at Royersford Elementary into a Hybrid Learning Model. She stated that she is not necessarily opposed to this change but was dismayed to find that the

Board was at the voting stage without any opportunity of a dialogue between the district and the families that will be impacted. Ms. Schmalbach commented that having only found out about this proposed change this past Friday smacks of secrecy and backhandedness. She asked if it was the Board's intention to not include the parents in this decision. Ms. Schmalbach said this was not the same as switching textbooks. She added that this model is still very new and does not have any long-term results or studies to prove its superiority to any other proven educational strategy. Ms. Schmalbach reported that she had asked her first grader how he felt about coming to school and spending more time on the computer and he had replied that he would do whatever his mom thought was best but that he did not go to school to spend all day on a computer.

Anne Wilhelm, Royersford Borough, wanted to speak about the Hybrid Learning Center. She stated that she does not necessarily object to the idea but has lots of questions about whether this is the right thing. Ms. Wilhelm asked the Board to spend at least a year studying this including dialogue and feedback from teachers and parents. Ms. Wilhelm suggested more studies and openness along with the results from Spring City as well as the reason, the intention and the goals for turning Royersford into a Hybrid Learning Center. Ms. Wilhelm indicated that specific questions she has are regarding parents having more time to plan to opt out if they want to and make plans for private school if that is what they choose to do and teachers will need time to opt out if they choose to. Ms. Wilhelm asked how the district will plan to handle the overflow of kids from Royersford into the other district elementary schools and how they would handle the transportation issues. She expressed concern over her first grader spending a lot more time on the computer at school and she asked that students be given a chance to spend a lot more time outdoors possibly engaging in more robust physical education, even recess, more art education, and more non-technology time. Ms. Wilhelm stated that if the district decides to put money into this they should consider putting the resident's tax money where their mouth is and make this curriculum like a power-house STEM school.

Pete Ibach, Upper Providence Township, stated that he would like to echo what the other residents brought up as concerns such as not having the opportunity to see the data, and learn more about the program and its successes. He urged the Board to wait on voting on this until after the parent meeting which is scheduled for May 11th. Mr. Ibach stated that if the Board is going to vote tonight then there are a few inaccuracies out in the media such as the comparable size of Royersford to Spring City as he feels they are not the same at all. He asked that the Board wait until next month's meeting for parents to have real information about this situation.

Deirdre Davidson, Royersford Borough, commented that she would like to echo everything that has been said and she asked the Board for more time. Ms. Davidson stated that she thought that possibly she had missed something when she received the memo from Royersford. She again asked for more time instead of voting on this tonight and give the parents a chance to learn more and ask more questions.

Mary Dehnert, Limerick Township, stated that before she starts she wanted to make a clarification that her comments and concerns come directly from her and no other party. Mrs. Dehnert said that she was not present at previous meetings

to see any presentation or information presented on this so with that she pleads ignorance. Mrs. Dehnert said she has some questions and concerns that she thinks the parents should know and the Board should think about these things before taking a vote. She asked what data was used to show that this program was successful and if it was the PSSA's was a comparison made from a grade 3 to a current grade 3 or was it a grade 3 compared with the following year grade 4 which would be the same students compared to the same students. Mrs. Dehnert suggested that most research shows that there should be at least 3 data points before any change is made and a change isn't usually made unless the data points are going in the same direction of either improvement or decline. She added if she understands correctly, the data shows one year there was a decline and one year there was improvement so there was not 3 data points showing improvement used. Mrs. Dehnert stated that if you do not have three data points then you do not know what caused the improvement. Mrs. Dehnert commented that since this is called Hybrid Learning then she assumes this is going to be used for instruction and not reinforcement and if it is used for instruction then what percentage of time will the students be on the computer compared to direct instruction by teachers. Mrs. Dehnert stated that she believes parents should know that since PSSAs are not given in grades K-2 what data was used to show that these Royersford students in grades K-2 need the Hybrid Learning. She added that when students show weaknesses typically educators look at 3 things when a change is needed and that is what kind of instruction, the delivery of the instruction and the amount of instruction needed. Mrs. Dehnert questioned before change is made in the program or in the delivery of instruction, what data showed that this was the direction that needed to be taken. She next questioned if other programs were looked at and if other similar programs had been piloted. Mrs. Dehnert asked if the Hybrid Learning addresses strengths and weaknesses, specific elements of reading like phonics decoding, fluency, accuracy, and comprehension. Mrs. Dehnert questioned if it addresses specific areas of math and whether it shows fact fluency, computation, word problems, and application. Mrs. Dehnert asked what the baseline is that is used to track the progress of students and how often is their progress monitored. She stated that she believes these are all things that should be addressed before making a change in the program.

Dr. Goodin thanked everyone for coming out this evening as it shows that parents have a tremendous interest in what is happening in their neighborhood school as do they. He added that there is a tremendous amount of excitement about the possibility of expanding this program into another school within the district. Dr. Goodin stated that we are talking about a program that received state and national attention for being a program that is cutting edge. Dr. Goodin reminded everyone that the Board and administration want them to have all of this information, they want to be able to share all of the data with them so that they know exactly what the program is and know exactly what the children are going to be experiencing. Dr. Goodin emphasized that students are not sitting at a computer all day and currently in many elementary schools students work at stations and rotate within their classrooms. He also advised everyone that there are also many classrooms where technology is being used so this is not a big change from what we already have right now but it is more systematic. Dr. Goodin stated that the system in place at Spring City has been shown to be very effective and the first year there was tremendous growth scores that were not necessarily reflected in the achievement but certainly the growth scores were higher. Dr. Goodin added that in the second

year those growth scores bore out in the achievement pieces for our students. Dr. Goodin reported that they have seen some really positive movement with the students at Spring City as well as positive anecdotal data as far as the satisfaction of the parents, the students and the staff who are totally behind this solid program. Dr. Goodin assured everyone that he would not support something that he did not know in his heart would be solid, positive experience for our kids. Dr. Goodin stated that he wants the parents to have as much information as they need and they have the first information meeting scheduled for May 11th and if there needs to be more meetings then we will certainly do that. Dr. Goodin added that as far as training the staff there is a road map that is already laid out. He commented that they parent who commented on Royersford being larger was correct and that is the reason for the phased in approach that we are taking with grades K-2 first and then grades 3-4 later. Dr. Goodin asked the Board for affirmation that he can move forward with the parent meetings and laying the groundwork to get this project done. Dr. Goodin again confirmed that students are not spending all of their time in front of a computer as they are working at stations and one of the stations happens to be a computer station. Dr. Goodin advised that by the time a student gets to the station for direct instruction, the teacher already has real-time data on that student's progress so the instruction can be completely tailored to what that student needs. Dr. Goodin stated that he needs affirmation from the Board in order to schedule meetings and schedule professional development time for the staff. Dr. Goodin reminded everyone that the school district calendar runs from September to June and purchases will need to be made for this program. Dr. Goodin reported that the discussion on bringing this program into the Royersford building has been ongoing at the Curriculum Committee meetings which are reported out to the Board. Dr. Goodin commented that we are going to have Spring City parents come out and meet with the Royersford parents and we are also going to work extensively with the staff. Dr. Goodin stated that he does not want to meet with the Royersford families and sell something that he does not have School Board support for.

Mr. Dehnert commented that last week he made mention of the data and went back and looked at previous meeting minutes because he did not believe that they had seen a lot of data on the performance of Spring City under Hybrid Learning. Mr. Dehnert reported that last year they saw two meetings with discussion on the performance and the first one was in March of 2014 where there was some data presented to the Board and that was during the second year of the three year pilot. Mr. Dehnert stated that it was his understanding that the first year of the pilot we did not start data collection until halfway through the year so the March 2014 meeting only presented half a year of data. He added that the Board has not seen the results of the performance of Spring City for a full year yet. He noted that they did see PSSA scores back last fall from the first two years of the pilot and his comments on this are that it is not apples to apples since you are not comparing the same group of kids and also one year scores went down and one year they went up which is not necessarily a good indicator of the success of the program. Mr. Dehnert stated that this program may be the best thing there is for education but he does not feel they have seen the data to report that yet. Mr. Dehnert indicated that back in March 2014 Dr. Floyd had stated that the program would not be evaluated until after the third year of the pilot and we are not even through that third year and already we are saying it is a success without seeing the results and let's put it in other schools where we have a population of more than 2½ times of Spring City. Mr. Dehnert expressed his apprehension that

we do not have enough information to say this is going to be successful. Mr. Dehnert said he would like to see demonstration success before we declare it.

Mr. DiBello commented that this was brought up last week during Mrs. Heine's Curriculum and Technology Committee report and the reason why it was suggested to move forward onto this week's agenda was not to be secretive or not let parents know what is going on. He stated that it was his suggestion to put this on the agenda and move forward with the plan which is very similar to what was done at Spring City. Mr. DiBello commented that the administration met with the Board and presented their strategy on what they wanted to do at Spring City Elementary and the first part of this was to have extensive meetings with the staff and the parents. Mr. DiBello stated that it is his understanding that there has already been conversation with the staff and some of the teachers have even gone down to Spring City to see the Hybrid Learning concept into play as well. Mr. DiBello said he has been told this by the administration and he has to trust that this is what has occurred. He added that his feeling was that the whole point of the motion this evening is to provide the administration, including Dr. Goodin, with permission to proceed forward with and engage parents in talking about this model and what we could do at Royersford Elementary. Mr. DiBello said he wanted to do this sooner rather than later because rumors start going and he heard a lot over the weekend at post prom and there were some parents that were very excited and some that had questions. Mr. DiBello stated that the whole point of implementing the plan was so that Dr. Goodin and Dr. Floyd can start meeting with parents to review what Hybrid Learning is, more importantly what it isn't and address concerns especially over the students spending enormous amounts of time in front of computers which is not true. Mr. DiBello commented that the way the motion is written could be somewhat confusing because there is a budget coming up in June and if we do not account for the money, if we implement this program, then it would be difficult to move forward in the direction we want to go. He said he was glad to see parents here as this is a good kick start of more to come. Mr. DiBello said he believes the parents will be pleasantly impressed with what Hybrid Learning is. Mr. DiBello added that what makes the data points tough to analyze is that the state keeps changing assessments so we are never comparing apples to apples no matter what. Mr. DiBello stated that the Board has to take the administration's recommendation based on their experiences and say that this could be a very beneficial model to incorporate in any school based on what they feel is appropriate and joining this with the curriculum and what is being taught in any school.

Mary Dehnert asked what data is being shown to indicate that a change needs to be made at Royersford and Dr. Goodin replied that there are declining PSSA scores for the past 3 years and they are not doing as well as our other buildings. Dr. Goodin stated that Royersford is a Title I school and we have to put more supports in place so this is a support. Dr. Goodin commented that we do not want to see the continued decline in student scores and we want to put things in place that are going to help them. Dr. Goodin reported that, almost intuitively, when you look at the hybrid model that it is going to work because in a typical class you have 24 students being taught by a teacher for math and in a hybrid model you have 8 students being taught by a teacher in a small group and that teacher is being informed by real-time data on what those students need. He said this is apart from the tremendous data jump we have seen at Spring City Elementary.

Sarah Schmalbach questioned dollars being budgeted and wondered what happens when the grant money runs out as in 3 years the technology will be old so what do we do, where does the money come from, and what programs do you cut in order to purchase new technology. Dr. Goodin explained that the project at Spring City originally started with grant money and the real cost is the startup piece and the professional development piece. He stated that built into the Technology Budget will be the funds necessary to refresh and address any technology needs. Dr. Goodin reported that the project will not die on the vine. Dr. Goodin again emphasized that the district is receiving national recognition for our program. He reassured parents that he wants to make sure they are comfortable with this program no matter how many questions must be answered or however many meetings that takes.

Mrs. Spletzer stated that she has sat in on the Curriculum Committee meetings and she supports this initiative and would vote for this initiative but as a parent of Royersford Elementary, in receiving the communications over the past week and the format that this came out, she will move to table the vote tonight until next month. Mrs. Spletzer commented that she believes that if parents go home and do their research and come to the meeting at Royersford that they and the PTO will come to the same conclusion that this is a good thing.

Mrs. Heine apologized to the Board saying she had the data points but was tied up for most of the day on Friday and Dr. Floyd had sent her the information but she did not get it out to the Board in the Friday packet. Mrs. Heine said that she will get this out to the Board as it is more than one set of data points.

Dr. Goodin stated that if the Board were to choose to table the motion tonight that they give him some kind of indication on whether he can move forward with parent meetings. Dr. Goodin added that there is a budget that will be approved in June and there is a lot of work to be done between now and June. Dr. Goodin said he had hoped that this would be approved tonight but if not then at the very minimum he needs to know that he has their support to move forward with this.

Mr. DiBello said he believes we just need to clarify the motion better to what we are trying to do. He commented that the motion is really about providing administration with the approval to meet with the parents to start the discussions on what hybrid learning is or could be in Royersford Elementary. Mr. DiBello said if the Board does not want to provide the seed money as part of the motion then that is fine as it is more about getting the process started and that administration has the Board's support to meet with the parents to discuss and answer all of the questions.

Mr. Dehnert commented that he did not think a motion was needed for administration to meet with parents. He added that the original plan for the Hybrid Learning was to have the meeting on May 11th and then following that have the Board vote on this in May to approve it but it was jumped ahead at the meeting last week. Mr. Dehnert stated that he believes we should go back to the plan and he does not believe we need a motion to approve a meeting but a motion is needed to table this program until next month.

Mr. DiBello said that when he talked about moving this forward he believed that we would be following the same steps and approach that was done with Spring City which was giving approval to move forward, begin meeting with parents and discussing the program. He stated that this was his impression on what was being done.

Mr. Pettit thanked the parents for coming out and said he believes they should be questioning what is being proposed for their school. He urged parents to visit Spring City Elementary and not listen to the rumors. Mr. Pettit said that if parents did this he thinks their position would be more favorable as the program has good success so far and may be extremely helpful for their children as well.

Mrs. Heine stated that this is the same model as was followed in Spring City and the Board needs to support the fact that we are moving forward. She added that this is not saying we are doing it but it is saying that we are giving the administration the direction to talk to the staff to get their support and to talk to the parents to get their support to move forward. Mrs. Heine stated that administration cannot do that if the Board comes back to the table and says no, we are not doing that because we are putting the cart before the horse. Mrs. Heine said that at the end of the day the Board must make the decision as to whether or not to support this program.

Mr. Dehnert pointed out that the motion on the agenda does not talk about having a meeting but rather states approval for the expansion of the program. He stated that he would like to replace the wording so that it says administration is being given permission to meet with the parents and explain the Hybrid Learning Program to the Royersford Elementary parents. Mrs. Spletzer seconded it.

Mrs. Heine stated that the motion needs to include the professional development piece as it is not just meeting with parents because we are going to discuss moving forward again and we need the professional development in order to do that.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he is not in favor of approving any funding until after the parent meeting. Mr. Dehnert said his motion is to have the meeting first and then if we have confidence that the parents are behind this then he believes we should vote at next month's meeting to approve the program. He added that we should not approve a piece of it because we may not want to do any of it if the outcome of the meeting is not successful.

Mr. Jackson asked if the board could wait on this until we get to that point in the agenda and Mr. Dehnert stated that there is already a motion and a second.

Mr. Fitzgerald commented that the Board has a standing motion and a second on the floor right now so they must be voted on.

Mr. DiBello made a motion to table the amended motion by Mr. Dehnert until we actually get to that portion of the agenda and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 7-1 with Mr. Dehnert voting no. The amended motion was tabled.

II. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Extracurricular

Tom DiBello

2nd Mon. 6:00 p.m.

Mr. DiBello reported that the Extracurricular Committee met on April 13, 2015 where the committee viewed a presentation from the Class Officers of 2016 which included information on prom ticket sales and fundraisers they had planned in order to generate funds for next year's prom. The next presentation was from Middle School Athletics who provided an update on winter and spring sports. Mr. DiBello stated that the good thing is that there are a lot of kids participating and want to participate in sports. Mr. DiBello reported that there were 819 PIAA physical packets that were filed for middle school. In spring sports there were 455 students tryout and 349 that were rostered. Mr. DiBello stated that after reviewing the participation numbers discussion was held on the possibility of adding a second team to those grade levels that had a high number of kids cut. Mr. McDaniel indicated that he would verify if this can be done with PIAA. The committee will revisit this topic in the future. Mr. DiBello reported that there will be several extracurricular contracts that will be part of the upcoming agenda such as the Ski Club, the Games Club and contracts related to Marching Band, Ram Buddies and Friends in the Community. Mr. DiBello provided a brief description on the Ram Buddies and Friends in the Community Clubs. Mr. DiBello advised that the committee received an update from the Technology Department on converting the PIAA health paperwork that parents must fill out into an automated system to make process easier for parents and so that the Athletic Department can use the paperwork from sport to sport. This initiative is underway and the goal is to try to have the first packet ready for the late May – Early June registration for fall sports.

Property

Clinton Jackson

2nd Tues. 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Jackson reported that the Property Committee met on April 14, 2015 and reviewed the bids for the high school gym floor and funding for this will come out of the Capital Improvement Plan. It was reported that steel beams and duct work in the gym needed to be cleaned and painted and this work will take place over the summer. There was an update on the Capital Projects planned for 2015-2016. The state contract price for the flooring at Upper Providence Elementary was received and funding for this project will come from 2015-2016 General Budget. The Committee received an update from the roofing consultant on the Royersford Elementary project along with recommendations. The Committee discussed the feasibility study which is on-going. Discussion also took place on the replacement of the T1 and T2 student transportation vans due to age and mileage. The final item discussed was the Boy Scout Eagle Bench Project at Brooke Elementary.

Community Relations

Todd Wolf

3rd Mon. 6:30 p.m.

There was no report.

MCIU

Tom DiBello

4th Weds. 7:00 p.m.

Mr. DiBello reported that the MCIU Board met last week and on Friday the new building was dedicated and an open house was held. Mr. DiBello reported that all 22 districts should be extremely proud of this new building and he encouraged everyone if they are in the area to stop by and see the new MCIU building. Mr. DiBello stated that Dr. George will be at next month's School Board meeting to provide an update and go over important happenings at the IU. The MCIU Board also spent time talking about some bills that are occurring down in Harrisburg. Mr. DiBello reported that one bill deals with bargaining sessions between districts and their staff. The bill

proposes making bargaining sessions public meetings and not executive sessions. Mr. DiBello said that he is not sure how the body in Harrisburg feels about this and whether this is something they believe should or should not occur. Mr. DiBello reported that there is also a proposal for a new property tax relief bill which is Bill 860 and is very similar to House Bill 76 which everyone knows about. He added that there is no real difference between the bills and Governor Wolf's budget but there is a lot of talk about increasing the personal income tax 3-4% and also increasing the sales tax between 6-7%. Mr. DiBello reported that there are two main pieces which still have not been figured out and that that is where they are going to get the additional funding in order to do the property tax relief and how they are going to actually reduce the property tax itself. One concept is to use the Homestead Tax Relief but this has not totally been flushed out. Mr. DiBello stated that there is also a rising concern over commercial property versus residential property as if Harrisburg decides to go one way then there would be a reduction in commercial property taxes and this could hurt us as Spring-Ford receives a decent amount of revenue from commercial property taxes. Mr. DiBello added that an interesting thing is that they still have not figured out how districts who receive 80%-90% of their funding from the state would continue to get that same level of funding while districts like Spring-Ford, if there was a fair funding formula in place, would receive somewhere around an additional \$50-\$60 million from the state. Mr. DiBello commented that this is extremely confusing but he take away from the MCIU is that there is a lot of momentum in Harrisburg to do some type of property tax relief but no one has figured out what the means and how it will be effective. Mr. DiBello stated that the downside to it all is that no matter what, with property tax relief, school districts that have debt service will still have to impose property tax to pay off the debt as the state will not provide funding that will be used towards the debt service so property tax will not ever completely go away. Mr. DiBello concluded that there are more unanswered questions than answered ones.

PSBA Liaison Todd Wolf

There was no report.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin announced that students in grades 4 and 8 began the Science PSSA Assessment today and will continue testing throughout the week. He stated that this is the last section of assessments and thanked staff who prepare the students and administer the assessments. He also thanked the students who take each section very seriously. Individual results will be forwarded to parents when they are received from the state which is expected to be during the fall of 2015. Dr. Goodin reported that for the 4th year the district will be working with K12 Insight to administer climate surveys to our parents, staff and Spring-Ford seniors. The feedback we obtain from this survey will be used to ensure that our students are prepared to positively contribute to society. The surveys are tailored to each user group and focus on a range of items including educational quality, parent engagement, student support, safety and behavior, and school leadership among other topics. Dr. Goodin stated that he looks forward to sharing the results this summer. Dr. Goodin commented that he is happy to report that the district held two very successful events this past weekend. On Friday night the 2nd Annual Spring-Ford 5K Run/Walk was held. This year there were about 350 participants, which is a significant increase from the previous year. He thanked all of the participants and sponsors who made this event a success. Dr. Goodin announced that Mr. Dehnert is the reigning champion in his age group for the second year in a row. Dr. Goodin stated that he working to get back in shape and in running form and he issued a challenge to Mr. Dehnert to dethrone him at next

year's event where the winner will buy the other dinner. Mr. Dehnert accepted the challenge. Dr. Goodin announced that also this weekend the Spring-Ford Area High School Prom and the SNAP Post Prom were held. He stated that both events were a big hit with our students who look forward to the evening all year. Dr. Goodin thanked the class advisors for their work in planning the prom and also the parent volunteers who organize and fundraise for the post-prom event. Dr. Goodin announced that the Spring-Ford Area High School was named as one of Americas Most Challenging High Schools by The Washington Post. He added that this is the first year that the high school has been recognized by this publication. Dr. Goodin stated that he is proud to see the district achieve ongoing national acknowledgment and it reminds our students and staff that their hard work is paying off.

Mrs. Spletzer commented that the prom speaks volumes for students as it was another year with no problems. She stated that we have great kids in our district.

Solicitor's Report

Mark Fitzgerald

There was no report.

Mr. Dehnert introduced Mr. Edward Murray, the district's bond advisor, and said that he can speak about the refunding of bonds that is on the agenda tonight.

Mr. Murray explained that this refunding had been discussed at the Finance Committee meeting previously and tonight the Board will entertain a motion to enter into a debt incurring resolution based on parameters to be met in the future. Mr. Murray stated that the bond refunding will result in savings. He added that the first bond is one that was originally incurred for the construction of Brooke Elementary and ends in 2023. The refunding will not extend the debt. He stated that the district would be trading in 5% coupons for roughly 2% coupons which should result in a savings of \$1.627 million. Mr. Murray reported that the other bonds are the remaining ones from the High School construction project and this refunding will result in a savings of roughly \$1.190 million. Mr. Murray announced that the school district's rating of AA2, which is very, very good has been confirmed. Mr. Murray stated that this shows great management and great foresight from the School Board over a long sustained period of time. Mr. Murray added that for the district to build up the reserve funds and do the kind of things they have done is a true credit to the School Board. Mr. Murray advised the Board that at this point he does not have everything locked in and the bonds would be sold tomorrow and he asked for their authorization to move forward with this.

Mr. Dehnert thanked Mr. Anspach for his stewardship on helping to achieve these savings. Mr. Murray recalled that this is the 10th bond refunding that we have done and have saved over \$13.5 million over the past 12 years.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved the March 16, 2015 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A1)**
- B. The Board approved the March 23, 2015 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A2)**

IV. PERSONNEL

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-I and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

A. Resignations

1. **Alyce L. Gilhool**, Elementary Teacher, Limerick Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 17, 2015.
2. **John G. Podbielski**, Head Custodian, Spring City Elementary School; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: July 9, 2015.

B. Professional Staff Employee

1. **Lauren Keifer**, Art Teacher; replacing Linda Crane who is retiring. Compensation will be set at BS, Step 10, \$56,200.00, with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 25, 2015.

C. Support Staff Employee

1. **Marlo A. Oslon**, Instructional Assistant, Upper Providence Elementary School; replacing Vincent M. Lanzilotti who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: March 27, 2015.

D. Support Staff Substitute

1. **Matthew C. Kirkpatrick** Athletic Trainer \$120.00/day

- E. The Board approved of the following Registered Nurse to work 5 hours per day for the 2015 Extended School Year Program at a rate of \$30.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds.

1. **Suzanne Mosebrook**

- F. The Board approved the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2014-2015 school year. **(Attachment A3)**

- G. The Board approved of the following Special Education Teachers to be hired for the 2015 Extended School Year – Professional Staff including: Fast Forward, Speech & Language Services, and Tutor Programs. Compensation will be set at \$30.00 per hour plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds.

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|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Brian W. Aikens | 8. Karen M. DeLange |
| 2. Angela D. Allen | 9. Brittany L. Dellaquila |
| 3. Gillian M. Arganetto | 10. Stacy M. Eddinger |
| 4. Jennifer A. Bowyer | 11. Katherine L. Helm |
| 5. Krista M. Brooke | 12. Alice B. Hollingsworth |
| 6. Daniel R. Butterweck | 13. Christine M. Kramer |
| 7. April Collins | 14. Gina L. Lasky |

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| 15. Vanessa L. Mayer | 23. Erin M. Siuchta |
| 16. Nancy A. McDonough | 24. Jennifer P. Smith |
| 17. Jessica A. Mecleary | 25. Christopher R. Talley |
| 18. Kelsey A. Metzler | 26. Johannah M. Timbario |
| 19. Megan L. Miller | 27. Carol A. Vogt |
| 20. Alyssa J. Palaia | 28. Nicole A. Wake |
| 21. John E. Raber | 29. Lindsay Yerkes |
| 22. Shana L. Savard | 30. Crystal Zakszeski |

- H. The Board approved the following Support Staff to be hired for the 2015 Extended School Year Program. Compensation for new employees will be set at \$16.36 - \$18.15 per hour depending on experience and educational degree plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Regular hourly employee will be paid at their current Instructional Assistant hourly rate. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds.

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| 1. Nancy T. Birtch | 13. Colleen Kriebel |
| 2. Kara Borzillo | 14. Tiffany M. Landis |
| 3. Karlis Budkevics | 15. Matthew Marchini |
| 4. Maryann Christy | 16. April Mayes |
| 5. Janet T. Copenhaver | 17. Tara A. McGuirl |
| 6. Debra A. DeMitis | 18. Laura B. McQuaid |
| 7. Paula T. Donatelli | 19. Melanie A. Pierce |
| 8. Brian R. Fisher | 20. Sharon Ritson |
| 9. Angeline T. Fusco | 21. Leigh-Ann Simms |
| 10. Dallas Groshardt | 22. Terri L. Green-Stefanelli |
| 11. Cynthia Isabella | 23. Patricia A. Wynn |
| 12. Lynn Marie D. Keene | 24. Patricia Young |

- I. The Board approved the following teachers to be hired for the 2015 Cool School Program. Compensation will be set at \$30.00 per hour and will be funded through student tuitions. There will be no cost to the district.

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| 1. Susan L. Albright | 12. Shannon A. Hetrick |
| 2. Megan Ames | 13. John Hughes |
| 3. Jennifer Basom | 14. Jean Marie Lare |
| 4. Kris R. Bautsch | 15. Jamie N. McGee |
| 5. Joanne D. Bailey | 16. Alyssa Palaia |
| 6. Emily A. Beiter | 17. Vincent L. Randle |
| 7. Maria Carroll | 18. Katherine J. Schneider |
| 8. Brittany Dellaquila | 19. Karen L. Schodle |
| 9. Anna E. Haring | 20. Kaitlyn Skrocki |
| 10. Keith A. Heffner | 21. David Susek |
| 11. Matthew Herner | 22. Sharon A. VonMinden |

V. FINANCE

Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve Items A-I and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

***NEW ADDITIONS SINCE THE WORK SESSION**

- 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.
- B. Checks:
1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

<u>March</u>	
Check No. 156781 – 156871	\$ 612,541.80
ACH 141500470 – 141500475	\$ 619.39
<u>April</u>	
Check No. 156872 – 157049	\$1,981,959.95
ACH 141500476 – 141500491	\$ 3,028.17
 2. Athletic Fund

<u>March</u>	
Check No. 307862 – 307963	\$ 42,956.78
 3. *Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting

<u>*April</u>	
*Check No. 157050 – 157102	\$ 551,109.96
*ACH 141500492 – 141500494	\$ 198.89
 4. *Board Checks held for approval

<u>*April</u>	
*Check No. 157103 – 157135	\$ 81,463.19
*ACH 141500495 – 141500527	\$ 12,561.67
- C. The Board approved the following **independent contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Associations, the Home and School Leagues, the Parent Teacher Associations and the Parent Teacher Organizations:
1. **PA Friends of Agriculture – Camp Hill, PA.** Provide 5 days of lab classes in a mobile agriculture educational science lab for students at Limerick Elementary. Funding will be paid by the Limerick Elementary Home & School League and shall not exceed \$2,000.00.
 2. **Musicopia – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide an African Percussion and Dance performance for students at Royersford Elementary School. There is no charge for this performance.
- D. The Board approved the following independent contracts:
1. **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit – Norristown, PA.** Provide Assistant Business Manager services beginning April 7, 2015 through June 30, 2015. Services will be billed at a rate of \$400.00 per day and will be paid from the General Fund.

2. **Forgotten Friend, Inc. – Manheim, PA.** Provide two science assemblies during Earth Week entitled “Reptile Explorers”. Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$500.00.
3. **The Martin Luther School – Plymouth Meeting, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget – IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$3,900.00.
4. **Dr. Lisa Hain – Narvon, PA.** Conduct a Neuropsychological Evaluation, provide a written report, and participate in the follow-up meeting for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$5,500.00.
5. **Personal Health Care, Inc. – Valley Forge, PA.** Provide Nursing Services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 7 hours per day for 68 days at a rate of \$44.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$20,944.00.
6. **Richard Weidner – Telford, PA.** Provide a Spring-Ford Transitional Employment Program (S.T.E.P.) during the 2015-2016 school year for students with special needs as per their IEPs. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$85,000.00.
7. **Education Alternatives – Limerick, PA.** Provide Direct Services and supervision of Applied Behavioral Analysis for a special needs student as per the IEP. Direct services will be provided for 12 hours per week for 35 weeks at a rate of \$30.00 per hour for a total of \$12,600.00. Applied Behavioral Analysis will be provided for 12 hours per month for 7 months at a rate of \$95.00 per hour for a total of \$7,980.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$20,580.00.
8. **Variety Club Camp & Developmental Center – Worcester, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Programs for 3 special needs students as per their IEPs. Programming services will be provided for 6 weeks at a total cost of \$10,875.00 for all 3 students. In addition, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy and a 1-1 Assistant will be provided at a total cost of \$5,310.00. The total cost for all 3 students for all services will be \$16,185.00 and will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds.
9. **Easter Seals of Southeastern PA – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 25 days at a cost of \$214.86 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed \$5,371.50.
10. **American Red Cross – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide CPR and First Aid Training for Special Education Instructional Assistants. Funding will be paid from the Medical Access Funds and shall not exceed \$7,300.00.

11. **Katherine Helm – Blue Bell, PA.** Provide specialized reading instruction for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 55 sessions at a rate of \$30.00 per session. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$1,650.00.
 12. **PSA Healthcare – Reading, PA.** Provide nursing services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 20 hours per week for the remainder of the school year and for the Extended School Year Program at a rate of \$45.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$14,400.00.
 13. **Pediatric Therapy Services – Conshohocken, PA.** Provide Psychological services due to a short term absence to assist the district with staying in compliance for special education evaluations. Services will be provided for 196 hours at a rate of \$68.50 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$13,426.00.
- E. The Board approved **Resolution 2015-07** for the issuance of bonds in one or more series with certain parameters to advance refund the District's General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2007, and currently refund the District's General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2005. **(Attachment A4)**
- F. The Board approved a confidential settlement agreement and release agreement **#2015-03** with the parents of a student in special education in the amount of \$14,061.60. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget.
- G. The Board approved the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:
- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| <u>MARCH</u> | |
| Check No. 12072 – 12091 | \$ 222,813.36 |

***NEW FINANCE**

- H. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:
- General Fund
 - Money Market – March 2015
 - PSDLAF – March 2015
 - PSDMAX – March 2015
 - Checking Account – March 2015
 - PLGIT Account – March 2015
 - Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule – March 2015
 - Payroll Account – March 2015
 - Tax Account – March 2015
 - Activity Accounts
 - Elementary Activity – March 2015
 - 7th Grade Activity – March 2015
 - 8th Grade Activity – March 2015
 - High School Activity – March 2015
 - Athletic Account – March 2015
 - Bond Funds
 - Note of 2007A – March 2015

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – March 2015
- Debt Service Fund – March 2015
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – March 2015

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – March 2015
- Cafeteria Checking Account – March 2015
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – March 2015
- Investment Account – March 2015

- I. The Board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **APRIL** in connection with the **CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT – Fund 32:**

1. *Architectural Studio	Professional Services	\$	1,750.00
2. *Spring-Ford ASD	Colonial Electric-Sr. High Aux.		
	Gym- LED Lighting	\$	7,860.00
	TOTAL	\$	9,610.00

VI. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mr. DiBello asked that Item D be separated. Mr. Cromley made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved the purchase of the Athletics Gateway System from SRC Solutions. Athletics Gateway is an online registration system that will allow parents and guardians to register students for Spring-Ford Athletic Programs. The system is planned to launch in June 2015 to facilitate registration for fall 2015. The cost of the Athletics Gateway System is \$12,000.00 for the first year which will be paid from the 2014-2015 Technology Budget. The cost for the second year will be \$6,000.00 and will be paid from the 2015-2016 Technology Budget.
- B. The Board approved a lease agreement with ePlus Group, Inc. for the purchase of student laptops, student iPads, laptop charging carts, desktop computers, and monitors. The total equipment cost shall not exceed \$800,000.00 and will be divided into four annual lease payments not to exceed \$215,600.00 per year. Funding will come from the 2015-2016 Technology Budget. Approval of this lease agreement is contingent upon final review, modification where necessary, and approval by the Solicitor's Office, and completion of an official legal opinion consistent with the obligations of the lease agreement.
- C. The Board approved the commitment of funds, not to exceed \$18,000.00, to support the hourly wages of the District Support Technicians who will be working on the summer of 2015 technology projects. Funding will be split between the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 Technology Budgets.

NEW PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mrs. Heine asked for a recommendation from Dr. Goodin on how the motion for Item D should read.

Dr. Goodin stated "Administration recommends approval to implement a plan for the expansion of the Hybrid Learning Program into Kindergarten, First Grade and Second Grade at Royersford Elementary School for the 2015-2016 school year"

Mr. Dehnert commented that the wording was pretty much the same as the motion on the agenda and Dr. Goodin said no it was to implement a plan. Mr. Dehnert said he was not sure how you could do this without funding.

Mrs. Spletzer stated that she thinks there is a difference implementing a plan to move forward and just to meet with the parents.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he would be in favor of tabling the whole motion and not having anything other than we are going to meet with the parents on May 11th or some other date and then come back again next month with whatever the motion may be.

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to Table Item D and Mrs. Spletzer seconded it.

Mr. DiBello stated that we have a plan that Dr. Goodin and administration has laid out and he does not think that based on the plan we will be at a point by next month to have a vote to say if we are going to move forward with Hybrid Learning or not in Royersford Elementary. Mr. DiBello suggested that there be a motion for Dr. Goodin to execute a plan with a stop gate in it. The parent meeting could take place and the professional development could be laid out and then Dr. Goodin could present to the Board all of the information after the first half of the plan had been implemented.

Dr. Goodin clarified that they would basically do everything without spending any money. Mr. DiBello said you will have to spend some money because it will cost money in order to do everything you are going to do. Mr. DiBello clarified that what he is saying is move forward with the plan, like what was done at Spring City, and then come back to the Board for approval before you are actually ready to start Hybrid Learning in the school itself.

Mrs. Spletzer apologized for being blunt and stated that she is tired of hearing about how it was done at Spring City because there are differences in the circumstances. Mrs. Spletzer stated that you do not just do something because this is how it was done before. Mrs. Spletzer said she stands behind the program and thinks it is a good one but feels it is important to get the parents, the PTO and the teachers on board with us and give them an act of good faith as she feels the problem stems from the way this was communicated.

Mr. DiBello said he agrees with Mrs. Spletzer wholeheartedly and what he is saying is that we are setting a false expectation that they will meet with the parents on May 11th and then be ready to vote on it at the next meeting. Mr. DiBello said he is sorry and will not say that this was how it was implemented at Spring City. Mr. DiBello said administration has a plan and all he is saying is implement the plan that they have up to the point where they would then need Board approval to start Hybrid Learning in the school.

Mr. Dehnert stated that Spring City was a pilot and this is not a pilot as this is going to implement a permanent curriculum. Mr. Dehnert added that he would not expect that we would come back at the work session and vote on a program as that is not how we operate. Mr. Dehnert said he does not believe an action item is needed for administration to meet with the parents and go over what the program is and answer all of the questions. He stated that based on that parent meeting the administration can come back with an agenda item, report on what happened at that meeting, what the feedback is, the parents will have the opportunity to come back to the May Board Work session and tell the Board what they thought. Mr. Dehnert stated that the Board could review all of this and then vote on it at the end of May.

Mrs. Heine asked Mr. Fitzgerald if Dr. Goodin needed a motion or not. Mrs. Spletzer stated that there is already a motion on the table as Mr. Dehnert made a motion to table the vote until next month and she seconded it. Mrs. Heine stated that her question is whether Dr. Goodin needs a motion to move forward with a plan from this Board. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he believes Dr. Goodin needs direction that there is at least majority support for this initiative. He added that it does not necessarily require a formal vote under the School Code as there would not be any spending of dollars.

Mr. Pettit said the Board can talk about giving Dr. Goodin and administration approval to continue their planning to expand to the Hybrid Learning System and do whatever is necessary to get feedback from parents, input from the Spring City parents and teachers in order to assist the Royersford parents and teachers in understanding what is involved, and how successful it is or isn't.

Mr. Dehnert stated that administration has been planning the expansion so he does not feel that a motion is need to give permission for them to continue doing what they have been doing.

Mrs. Spletzer reiterated that the Hybrid expansion discussion is not coming to the table for the first time as the Board has talked about this for over a year and there has been a lot of planning by the Curriculum and Instruction Department and the Technology Department. Mrs. Spletzer stated that she believes this is the right thing to do from a communication standpoint.

Mr. Jackson asked how many time they can actually meet before the next work session. He asked if it was possible to expedite this and meet once a week with the parents. Mr. Jackson said he agrees with Mr. DiBello and if we do the May 11th meeting then nothing is going to transpire before the Board meets again at the May Board Meetings.

Dr. Goodin responded that he is not sure how many meetings will be necessary as this is not real rocket science with regards to what they are talking about doing in the building. Dr. Goodin said it really depends on how many questions are asked and how much follow-up needs to be done between now and the next Board meeting. Dr. Goodin added that due to the conversation that has occurred at the Board meeting, the Skylerts that were sent out and the newspaper coverage, he fully expects a good crowd on May 11th. Dr. Goodin indicated that they will go

through a presentation on that date and answer all the questions that come up and if they need to schedule another meeting then they will do so and quickly.

Mr. Ciresi stated that we really need to articulate our message in a much better form. He added that we shoot ourselves in the foot when we do not get our message out there in the right way. Mr. Ciresi commented that this program is an outstanding program. He spoke about all of the recognition the program at Spring City has received thus far. Mr. Ciresi said that through the rumor mill and whisper down the lane anything can be killed. Mr. Ciresi apologized on behalf of the Board for the information not being out to the parents as he thought this had occurred. Mr. Ciresi begged the parents that when they come to the meetings that they go with an open mind. Mr. Ciresi said he really believes in this program and thinks that it will expand across the United States. He stated that when the message is not put out there in the right manner and the time is not taken this is what happens. Mr. Ciresi said as we move forward in the future on any program, we know what our plan of attack is and give people enough notice of what we are doing and how we are doing it. Mr. Ciresi said he agrees with Mr. DiBello, Mrs. Heine and Mrs. Spletzer that this has been talked about in Committees forever and there was a thought on how to move this across all of the elementary schools eventually. Mr. Ciresi asked administration to invite all of the other elementary school teachers into whatever we are doing so that when we do decide or not in the future as a board to move this to Upper Providence or Limerick or Evans that those teachers already have buy-in and understand what we are talking about. Mr. Ciresi asked that the Spring City teachers and Mr. Edmunds come out and give their perspective on the program. Mr. Ciresi acknowledged Dr. Floyd and said he has done a great job in moving this forward and showing statistically how it works. Mr. Ciresi stated that we cannot go off an article in the newspaper as we must deliver the message. Mr. Ciresi said he is glad to see that there are so many caring and interested parents. Mr. Ciresi suggested that the district utilize the Public Relations person on staff to make sure we understand what we are putting out there and do it in a timely fashion.

Mr. Dehnert commented that he keeps hearing about all this data and he would like to get a report on what the performance has been to date at Spring City Elementary so that he can see the data that supports the program being a success.

The motion passed 8-0.

- D. The Board tabled the motion for the approval to expand the *Hybrid Learning Program* into Kindergarten, First Grade and Second Grade at Royersford Elementary School for the 2015-2016 school year. The Hybrid Learning Program expansion will consist of professional development/training, hardware, and digital resources. The total cost of the expansion is not expected to exceed \$118,000.00. These funds are currently accounted for via carry-over monies from the "Ready to Learn" Grant from the 2014-2015 school year, as well as funds from both the 2015-2016 Technology Budget and the 2015-2016 Curriculum and Instruction Budget.

VII. PROPERTY

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-H and Mr. Jackson seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved a contract for Phase II of the carpet/tile replacement at Upper Providence Elementary School with **Continental Flooring**, through the NJPA Contract #022712 for a total cost of \$56,130.70. Funding will come from the 2015-2016 General Budget.
- B. The Board approved replacing the old sports equipment van which is no longer road ready with the T1 transportation van. A new transportation van will be purchased through the Pennsylvania CO-Stars, Contract #25-009, replacing the T1 transportation van for a total cost of \$35,844.00. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Plan.
- C. The Board approved ordering a new transportation van replacing the T2 transportation van due to excessive mileage and age. The T2 Van will be turned over to the Maintenance Department replacing one of their older vans which is no longer road ready. The order must be placed at least (8) months in advance, due to the lengthy lead time for the new van. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Plan.
- D. The Board approved replacing the roof at Royersford Elementary School due to age, wear and tear. The job will be coordinated by the Keystone Purchasing Network (KPN) through Tremco Roofing, Inc. The roof will be replaced during the summer of 2015. The cost of the project will be approximately \$1,150,000. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Plan.
- E. The Board approved purchasing new LED efficiency lighting for the parking lot at the High School replacing the old high sodium pressure lighting due to the age and inefficiency. The lights will be purchased through Co-Stars Purchasing Agency, Quote # QT538461, for a total cost of \$83,209.00. This work will be completed over the summer of 2015. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Plan.
- F. The Board approved seeking bids and awarding a contract for district-wide paving including the walkway areas around Coach McNelly Stadium. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Plan and shall not exceed \$150,000.00.
- G. The Board approved seeking RFP's to receive pricing for concrete and paving repairs district-wide on a per square foot/linear foot as needed.
- H. The Board approved advertising and seeking RFP's to dispose of non-road ready vehicles which are district owned.

VIII. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve Items A-E and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

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

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Bruce Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations & Facilities, to attend Session I of the PASBO Annual Conference on Tuesday, March 10, 2015. Mr. Cooper was previously approved at the January Board meeting to attend the sessions held from March 11 through March 13, 2015. Session 1 provided Mr. Cooper the chance to meet with directors from 5 area school districts on the topic of controlling costs for after hour district and non-district usage. The total cost for this additional session and lodging for the extra night was \$215.79 to be paid from the 580 account.

HIGH SCHOOL

- B. **Kristin Beideman**, Guidance Counselor/Department Chair, to attend the Montgomery County Counselors Association Program *"Mindfulness: Taking Care of Ourselves & Each Other"* in Collegeville, PA on the afternoon of May 8, 2015. The total cost for this program is \$25.00 (registration) to be paid from the 580 account.
- C. **Gwendolyn Phillips**, School Police Officer, to attend *"Planning the Active Shooter Drill"* at the Monmouth County Police Academy in Freehold, NJ on April 27, 2015. The total cost of this training is \$287.90 (registration and mileage) to be paid from the 580 account.

DISTRICT-WIDE

- D. **Wendy Taylor**, English/Language Arts Instructional Coach, to attend *"When Reading Meets Writing: TDA Grades 4-5"* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit on the afternoon of May 18, 2015. The total cost for this conference is \$45.00 (registration) to be paid from the 580 account.

5/6 GRADE CENTER

- E. **Gwen Chand**, Special Education Teacher, to attend *"Statewide Assistive Technology Consultants' Spring 2015 Network Training: Building AAC Capacity"* at PaTTAN in Harrisburg, PA on May 5, 2015 and May 6, 2015. The total cost of this conference is \$591.00 (transportation, lodging, meals and a substitute for 2 days) to be paid from the Ice for Autism Funds.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-F and Mrs. Spletzer seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. Administration recommends approval for the Spring-Ford Area High School Boys' Basketball Team to accept the invitation to participate in the KSA (Kaylee Scholarship Association) Basketball Tournament, December 28, 2015 – January 1, 2016 in Orlando, Florida. The cost per student-athlete will be approximately \$999.00 plus transportation. The High School Boys' Basketball Program and staff will conduct fundraising events to help defray the costs. There will be no cost to the school district.

The games played are part of the 2015-2016 schedule which allows a maximum of 22 contests per PIAA by-laws. Student-athletes will not miss any school days and no substitutes for the coaching staff are needed.

- B. Administration recommends approval for a bench to be installed at Brooke Elementary School in the Butterfly Garden Area as part of an Eagle Scout Project. There will be no cost to the District.
- C. Administration recommends approval of the revised 2015-2016 school calendar. **(Attachment A5)**

NEW OTHER BUSINESS

- D. The Board approved **Resolution 2015-08** in recognition of **Johnathan M. Reese** for participating in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association 2015 District 11 Band Festival, the 2015 Region VI Band Festival and for successfully auditioning and participating in the 2015 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All-State Wind Ensemble. **(Attachment A6)**
- E. The Board approved **Resolution 2015-09** in recognition of **Timothy M. Goman** for participating in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association 2015 District 11 Band Festival, the 2015 District 11 Orchestra Festival, the 2015 Region VI Band Festival, the 2015 Region VI Orchestra Festival, and for successfully auditioning and participating in the 2015 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All-State Concert Band. **(Attachment A7)**
- F. The Board approved **Resolution 2015-10** in recognition of **Joshua T. Mack** for participating in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association 2015 District 11 Band Festival, the 2015 Region VI Band Festival, for successfully auditioning and participating in the 2015 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All-State Concert Band, and for successfully auditioning and participating in the 2015 NAFME All- Eastern Division Concert Band. **(Attachment A8)**

X. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Dehnert announced that the Board plans to meet in an executive session on personnel after tonight's meeting.

Mr. Jackson commended the Board on the decorum shown to each other this evening and hopes that it can continue moving forward.

Mr. DiBello stated that he would like to give a shout out to the SNAP volunteers as they did an incredible job on Saturday night providing a safe environment for students to come back here after the prom. Mr. DiBello reported that the event was well attended and there were over 100 volunteers which included staff, parents and some friends of parents. Mr. DiBello stated that as it was in previous years it was an exciting event that the kids really enjoyed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cromley made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary.

**EXTRACURRICULAR CONTRACTS
MAY 2015**

	CONTRACT TITLE	SEASON	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	STIPEND
1	Lacrosse Coach-Boys	Spring	Tatum	Brian R.	\$1,386.00
2	Asst. Track Coach-Girls & Boys – HS	Spring	Gray	Jamie	\$1,995.50