

On June 23, 2008 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:37 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I:	Michael V. Masciandaro, Bernard F. Pettit and David R. Shafer
Region II:	Ammon G. Morgan, Jr., and Julie A. Mullin
Region III:	Mark P. Dehnert and John S. Grispon
Presiding Officer:	Donna L. Williams
Superintendent:	Dr. Marsha R. Hurda
Business Manager:	Tim Anspach
Solicitor:	Marc Davis, Esq.
Student Rep.:	Samantha Wanner

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

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Williams announced that the Board met in an executive session to discuss a real estate matter. The New Holland Band will be putting on a free performance for the public on Friday, June 27 at 7:00 PM in the Spring-Ford High School auditorium. The performance is being sponsored by the Spring-Ford Educational Foundation. Mrs. Williams reminded the public that there is still time for parents to sign up their children for the "Just for Kids" summer classes and trips through the Community Education Program. Information is available on the district website or by calling 610.705.6081 or 610.705.6138.

### **I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

There were no questions or comments.

### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Morgan made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

A. The Board approved the April 28, 2008 Board Meeting minutes.

### **III. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance** **John S. Grispon** **2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. 7 p.m.**

Mr. Grispon reported that the Finance Committee met on June 19, 2008 where Reed Sandler, the district's insurance broker, was present and answered questions regarding the district's insurance coverage. The premium is lower than it was last year, the companies he deals with are stable and experienced, and

the rates are reasonable. The Committee also talked about sports insurance, copiers, the budget book and the homestead/farmstead handouts.

**Property/Facilities                      Robert A. Weber                      2<sup>nd</sup> Weds. 7 p.m.**

Mr. Morgan reported that the Property/Facilities Committee met on June 11, 2008 and reviewed the ongoing construction of the New Administration Building and the High School Stadium progress. The Committee talked about the acceptance of the bids for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center Waterproofing Project, and the sprinkler installation at Brooke Elementary and Spring City Elementary.

**IV. PERSONNEL**

Mr. Dehnert asked that Item H be separated. Mr. Grispon asked that Item M be separated.

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

**A. Resignations:**

1. **Sarah Farrell**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; French Teacher, effective with the last teacher day, June 13, 2008.
2. **Lisa Hornberger**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, effective with the last work day, June 13, 2008.
3. **Lori J. Hoyle**, High School, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, effective with the last work day, June 6, 2008.
4. **Karen Miscavage**, High School; Special Education Teacher, effective June 9, 2008.
5. **Nichole Monahan**, Limerick Elementary School; Administrative Assistant, effective with the last work day, June 13, 2008.
6. **Martin Seibert**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Support Technician, effective with the last work day, May 29, 2008.
7. **Meghan L. Steckel-May**, Spring City Elementary School; .5 Music Teacher, effective with the last teacher day, June 13, 2008.
8. **David M. Parker**, Evans Elementary School; Special Education Teacher, effective with the last teacher day, June 13, 2008.

**New Resignations:**

9. **Todd Johnson**, High School; Custodian, effective with the last work day, July 10, 2008.
10. **Daniele Quarino**, High School; Math Teacher, effective June 16, 2008.

**B. Leaves of Absence:**

1. **Catherine Bala**, Brooke Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for an extended Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective for the 2008/2009 school year.
2. **Bethany Lewis**, High School; English Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy and the Professional Agreement, effective August 19, 2008 for the 2008/2009 school year.
3. **Bevin A. Seislove**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Music Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective for the 2008/2009 school year.

**New Leaves of Absence:**

4. **Diane Campbell**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Special Education Teacher, for an extended Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective August 19, 2008 for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of 2008/2009 school year.
  5. **Shannon L. Dusko**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective tentatively September 8, 2008.
  6. **Alicia Forgione**, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Learning Support Teacher, for an *extended* Leave of Absence in accordance with Professional Agreement, effective August 19, 2008 for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the 2008/2009 school year.
  7. **Shonna Schulz**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Special Education Teacher, for an *extended* Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective August 19, 2008 for the 2008/2009 school year.
  8. **Jean Marie Taddeo**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Spanish Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective August 19, 2008 for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of 2008/2009 school year.
  9. **Lydia J. Tornambe**, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Spanish Teacher, for an *extended* Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective August 19, 2008 for the 2008/2009 school year.
  10. **Dana Claffey**, 5/6 Grade Center; Learning Support Teacher, for an extended Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective August 19, 2008 for the 2008/2009 school year.
- C. The Board approved employing personnel during the interval between the June Board meeting and the August Board meeting for the 2008/2009 school year. It has been customary for the Board to authorize its officers to execute contracts for personnel recommended for employment by the administration during the months of July and August. Such authorization

is, of course, subject to limitations imposed by the 2008-2009 General Fund Budget.

D. **Temporary Professional Employees**, with benefits as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 19, 2008:

1. **Brienne Albright**, Evans Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.
2. **Margaret M. Barr**, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Family & Consumer Science Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.
3. **Janine Briggs**, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Special Education, compensation will be set at \$41,500, MS, Step 1.
4. **Michael Hoinowski**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Music Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.
5. **Julie Korchowsky**, High School; Social Studies Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.
6. **Rachel Lawrence**, High School; English Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.
7. **Parker J. Loomis**, High School; Social Studies Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.
8. **Emily Murphy**, High School; .5 Music Teacher, compensation will be set at \$20,000 BS, Step 1 for the .5 position.
9. **Meganlyn Rendina**, Limerick Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,500, BS+18, Step 1.
10. **Linda K. Thomas**, High School; English Teacher, compensation will be set at \$42,500, MS, Step 2.
11. **Katie A. Uhas**, High School; English Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.

**New Temporary Professional Employees**, with benefits as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 19, 2008:

12. **Elizabeth A. Capperella**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Math/Science Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.
13. **Christina A. Fabish**, High School; Earth Science Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,500, BS, Step 2.
14. **Mallory R. Greene**, High School; Health & Physical Education Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.

15. **Sherry Kepler**, Brooke Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,500, BS, Step 2.
16. **Carrie Kuklinski**, District; Speech & Language Pathologist, compensation will be set at \$48,700, MS, Step 6.
17. **Jennifer Lahr**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,500, BS, Step 2.
18. **Dawn M. Nelson**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,500, BS+18, Step 1.
19. **Tamura Yun**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Math/Science Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.

E. **Long Term Substitute**, with benefits, effective August 19, 2008:

1. **Molly Beaver**, Brooke Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for the 2008/2009 school year, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.

**New Long Term Substitutes**, with benefits, effective August 19, 2008:

2. **P. Michael Evak**, Evans Elementary School; Elementary Teacher for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of 2008/2009 school year, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.
3. **Patricia Flynn**, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Spanish Teacher, compensation will be set at \$ 42,500, MS, Step 2, for the 2008/2009 school year.
4. **Kristy L. Murphy**, High School; English Teacher, compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1 for the 2008/2009 school year.
5. **Jennifer Murray**, Evans Elementary School; Elementary Teacher for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of 2008/2009 school year; compensation will be set at \$40,000, BS, Step 1.

F. The Board approved the following teachers to be hired for the **2008 Summer School program for Middle & High Schools**. Compensation will be set at \$30 per hour plus benefits (FICA & Retirement).

- |                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| 1. <b>Colleen Antal</b>   | Science        |
| 2. <b>Michele Konnick</b> | English        |
| 3. <b>Susan Miscavage</b> | Social Studies |
| 4. <b>Doug Weidner</b>    | Mathematics    |

G. The Board approved the following Special Education Teachers to be hired for the **2008 Summer ESY Professionals including Fast Forward, Speech and Language Services, and Tutor Programs**. Compensation will be set at \$30 per hour plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Funding will be from IDEA funds.

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. <b>Lauren A. Bucci</b>   | 5. <b>Tiffany Hoffman</b>  |
| 2. <b>Daniel Butterweck</b> | 6. <b>Christine Kramer</b> |
| 3. <b>Joanna D’Orazio</b>   | 7. <b>Gina Lasky</b>       |
| 4. <b>Rebecca Gluck</b>     | 8. <b>Yvonne Lockbaum</b>  |
|                             | 9. <b>Joseph Schroeder</b> |

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item H and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 7-0 with Mr. Dehnert abstaining under Section 1111 of the School Code.

- H. The Board approved the following **ESY-Support Staff** to be hired for the **2008 Summer ESY program(s)** that were previously Board approved. Compensation for new employees will be set at \$13.56 per hour plus benefits (FICA & Retirement); new employees degree rate will be \$14.56 per hour\*. Regular hourly employees will be paid at the current instructional hourly rate. Funding will be from IDEA funds.

- |                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. <b>Michael A. Benedict</b> | 11. <b>Dana A. Peden</b>        |
| 2. <b>Megan M. Casey</b>      | 12. <b>Nicola Pascal</b>        |
| 3. <b>Devin L. Dehnert</b>    | 13. <b>Max Robinson*</b>        |
| 4. <b>Brittany DiJiosia</b>   | 14. <b>Lia Sandilos*</b>        |
| 5. <b>Jeff Fuhrman</b>        | 15. <b>Randall Seip*</b>        |
| 6. <b>Jessica Guzzard</b>     | 16. <b>Ann M. Shepherd</b>      |
| 7. <b>Allyson Kimble</b>      | 17. <b>Jennifer Werner</b>      |
| 8. <b>Carolyn T. Koch</b>     | 18. <b>Mary Walter*</b>         |
| 9. <b>Adrian Lightcap*</b>    | 19. <b>Charlotte A. Wilson*</b> |
| 10. <b>Janelle M. Mehan*</b>  |                                 |

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

- I. The Board approved **Connie Iannetta**, for the 2008 Summer Library Program at Upper Providence Elementary School. Compensation will be set at \$15.56 (degree rate) per hour plus benefits (FICA and Retirement).

J. **Professional Substitute:**

- |                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. <b>Kelly O’Donnell</b> | Elementary Ed./Special Ed. |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|

K. **Personnel Information Items:**

The individual(s) listed below have completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as temporary professional employee(s) and are, therefore, entitled to tenure status effective June 14, 2008:

- |                               |                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. <b>Brian Aikens</b>        | Elementary Ed./Special Ed.     |
| 2. <b>Courtney Amersbach</b>  | Elementary Ed./Mid-Level Math  |
| 3. <b>Megan Ames</b>          | Elementary Education           |
| 4. <b>Joanne Bailey</b>       | Elementary Ed./Special Ed.     |
| 5. <b>Jennifer Basom</b>      | Elementary Ed./Early Childhood |
| 6. <b>Angela L. Bortz</b>     | Elementary Ed./Early Childhood |
| 7. <b>Meredith L. Bozzuto</b> | English                        |
| 8. <b>Allison Brick</b>       | Elementary Ed./Social Studies  |
| 9. <b>Katie Burleigh</b>      | Communications/English         |

10.	<b>Nicholas Caffarella</b>	Mathematics
11.	<b>Christopher D. Cameron</b>	English
12.	<b>Tara Chester</b>	Elementary Education
13.	<b>Amber Cornwall</b>	Elementary Ed./Special Ed.
14.	<b>Amy Culp</b>	Art
15.	<b>Kathleen DiBenedetto</b>	Elementary Ed./Early Childhood
16.	<b>Marla Falcone</b>	Elementary Education
17.	<b>Nicole Gerenyi</b>	Communications/English
18.	<b>Dana Green</b>	Elementary Ed./Special Ed.
19.	<b>Michael Grube</b>	Elementary Education
20.	<b>Eric Hill</b>	Elementary Education
21.	<b>Jody L. Hovis</b>	Health & Physical Education
22.	<b>Jaclyn L. Keeley</b>	Health & Physical Education
23.	<b>Mark L. Kehl</b>	Elementary Education
24.	<b>Marlene M. Kimble</b>	Elementary Education
25.	<b>Amanda Miles</b>	Elementary Education
26.	<b>Barbara O'Brien</b>	Library Science
27.	<b>Louis M. Rizzo</b>	Elementary Education
28.	<b>John C. Slichter</b>	Elementary Education
29.	<b>Donna Sullivan</b>	Elementary School Counselor
30.	<b>E. Zachary Stewart</b>	Spanish
31.	<b>Mark E. Templeton</b>	Mathematics
32.	<b>Rachel Thomas</b>	Spanish
33.	<b>Lindsey Waltermeyer</b>	Elementary Education

- L. The Board approved Kathleen Gallagher Kotch, for the position of Principal at Spring City Elementary School. Mrs. Kotch received her Bachelor of Science Degree from West Chester University; her Master of Science Degree in Educational Administration from St. Joseph's University and is currently enrolled in a Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership at Immaculata University. Mrs. Kotch has nine years of previous administrative experience. Compensation will be set at \$95,614 with benefits, effective July 1, 2008.

Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Item M and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- M. The Board approved the salary for the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Marsha R. Hurda. Dr. Hurda's salary for 2008-2009, beginning July 1, 2008 will be \$175,070.59.

**NEW PERSONNEL**

Mrs. Mullin made a motion for Item N and Mrs. Williams seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- N. **New Professional Employee**, with benefits as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 19, 2008:
1. **Elizabeth Piccioni**, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Reading Teacher, compensation will be set at \$44,500, BS+18, Step 5.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion for Items O-Y and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

Dr. Hurda introduced Kathie Kotch, the newly approved Principal of Spring City Elementary School. Dr. Hurda said as part of Mrs. Kotch's duties she will continue to do the outstanding job that she has done so far in the Community Education Program. Dr. Hurda and the Board congratulated Mrs. Kotch on her new position.

- O. The Board approved of **Barbara Bono**, for the Administrative Assistant position at Limerick Elementary School. Compensation will be set at \$15.49 per hour, with benefits as per the Secretarial Plan, effective June 24, 2008.
- P. The Board approved of **Martin Coleman**, for the Head Custodian Position at the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center. Compensation will be set at \$18.37 per hour with benefits as per the Custodial Plan, effective June 24, 2008.
- Q. The Board approved the following Special Education Teachers to be hired for the **2008 Summer ESY Professionals including Fast Forward, Speech and Language Services, and Tutor Programs**. Compensation will be set at \$30 per hour plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Funding will be from IDEA funds.
  - 1. **April Collins**
  - 2. **Alisa Fleisher**
  - 3. **Vicki Jeffers**
  - 4. **Lisa Stephenson**
  - 5. **Sandra Gallagher**
- R. The Board approved the following **Certificated Nurses to be hired for the 2008 Summer ESY Programs**: Compensation will be set at \$30 per hour plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Funding will be from IDEA funds.
  - 1. **Cathy Bradfield**
  - 2. **Bridget Mullins**
- S. The Board approved of **Sandra Frost Horvath** as the **Registered Nurse to be hired for the 2008 Summer ESY Programs**: Compensation will be set at \$25.06 per hour plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Funding will be from IDEA funds.
- T. The Board approved the following **ESY-Support Staff** to be hired for the **2008 Summer ESY program(s)** that were previously Board approved. Compensation for new summer employees will be set at \$13.56 or \$14.56\* (degree rate), per hour, plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Regular hourly employees will be paid at the current instructional hourly rate. Funding will be from IDEA funds.
  - 1. **Robin L. Angle\***
  - 2. **Paul DiRenzo\***
  - 3. **Rachel Kratz**
  - 4. **Erin Lewis\***
  - 5. **Patricia Young**



- U. **Extra-Curricular Contracts: High School 2007-2008**
  - 1. **Rick Pizzico**, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Head Baseball Coach, \$2,886
  - 2. **Josiah Platchek**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Baseball Coach, \$2,500
  - 3. **Karen Tagg**, Art Enrichment Club Advisor, \$528
- V. **Professional Substitutes:**
  - 1. **Annette Burns** Art
  - 2. **Jeanne Haring** Elementary Ed/ Library Science
- W. The Board approved the **extracurricular and supplemental contracts** for the 2008/2009 school year (To-date listing attached).
- X. The Board approved the attached job description for an Elementary Instructional Coach (K-6).
- Y. The Board approved the attached job description for the Spring City Elementary Principal position.

**V. FINANCE**

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

Mr. Pettit asked that Item A1 be separated, Mr. Grispon asked that Item E3 be separated, Mr. Masciandaro asked that Item G be separated and Mr. Dehnert asked that Item R be separated.

Mr. Grispon made a motion for Item A and Mr. Morgan seconded it. Mr. Pettit commented that he is opposed to the artificial turf portion of this motion but is not opposed to the other projects in this motion such as the sprinkler systems. The motion passed 8-0.

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

**1. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

WATERPROOFING PROJECT -8<sup>th</sup> GRADE CENTER – PHASE II

Arthur Altemose AIA Professional Services	\$ 1,634.35
TOTAL	\$ 1,634.35

ARTIFICIAL TURF - ATHLETIC FIELDS

UPS Store Drawing Copies (2 Inv.)	\$ 48.20
*Chester Valley Eng. Professional Services	\$ 11,080.64
*Stephen Parks Professional Services	\$ 69,926.71
TOTAL	\$ 81,055.55

\*HIGH SCHOOL FIELD #9

*U.P. Township Escrow & Permit	\$ 5,045.00
TOTAL	\$ 5,045.00

\*SPRINKLER SYSTEMS – BROOKE & SPRING CITY

\*BROOKE

*Anchor Fire Protect. Applic. #1- Fire Protection	\$ 64,759.50
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\*SPRING CITY

*Anchor Fire Protect. Applic. #1- Fire Protection	\$ 45,774.00
TOTAL	\$ 110,533.50

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve items B-D and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

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

1. **SENIOR HIGH- ALTERATIONS & ADDITIONS**

Bursich Assoc., Inc.	Professional Services	\$ 2,210.94
EI Associates	Professional Services (2 Inc.)	\$ 65,400.24
Fox Rothschild LLC	Professional Services	\$ 51.00
Pottstown Mercury	Legal Ad – Act 34	\$ 230.74
Times Herald	Legal Ad – Act 34	\$ <u>235.82</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 68,128.74

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

1. **NEW DISTRICT OFFICE**

Bureau Veritas	Professional Services	\$ 430.00
DDL Enterprises	Applic. #3- General Contractor	\$ 190,440.00
Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$ 2,706.00
Lenni Electric Corp.	Applic. #3- Electrical Contractor	\$ 2,159.73
Martin Stone Quarry	Stone (2 Inv.)	\$ 2,143.53
PECO	Electricity	\$ 155.05
TMI Commercial Inc.	Applic. #1- Fire Suppression	\$ 9,900.00
U.P.S. Store	Copies	\$ 5.25
U. Providence Twp.	Unused EDU'S	\$ 2,023.00
*Foreman Architects	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$ 10,150.00
*Kirk Grater Plumb.	Applic. #1- Plumbing Contractor	\$ 37,800.00
*Myco Mechanical	Applic. #2- HVAC Contractor	\$ 23,467.50
*TMI Commercial Inc	Applic. #1- Fire Suppression	\$ <u>9,900.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 291,280.06

2. **10<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE BY-PASS**

Earth Design Group	Professional Services	\$ <u>7,068.50</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 7,068.50

D. 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.

Mr. Shafer made a motion to approve Items E1, 2, 4 and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Item E3 and Mr. Morgan seconded it. The motion passed 7-0 with Mr. Grispon abstaining under Section 1111 of the School Code.

E.	Checks:		
1.	<u>Weekly Checks prior to Work Session</u>		
	<u>May</u>		
	Check No. 123677 – 123766		\$ 268,504.12
	<u>June</u>		
	Check No. 123767 - 123945		\$1,001,052.16
2.	<u>Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting</u>		
	Check No. 123946 - 124054		\$ 216,056.08
3.	<u>Board Checks held for approval</u>		
	Check No. 124055 – 124236		\$ 205,139.86
4.	<u>Athletic Fund</u>		
	<u>May</u>		
	Check No. 300503 – 300578		\$ 10,298.50

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Item F and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- F. The Board approved the following **independent contracts**:
1. **Dr. Ellis Edelman** and the parents of a special needs student to provide related vision services as per the IEP. Services will be provided for thirty-four (34) one hour sessions at a rate of eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$87.50) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed two thousand nine hundred seventy-five dollars (\$2,975.00).
  2. **Camp Joy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for two special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for twenty (20) days at a rate of one hundred forty dollars (\$140.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 IDEA Funds and shall not exceed two thousand eight hundred dollars (\$2,800.00).
  3. **The Vanguard School – Paoli, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for two special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for twenty-nine (29) days at a rate of two hundred twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$212.50) per day per student. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed twelve thousand three hundred twenty-five dollars and twenty-five cents (\$12,325.00).
  4. **Lovaas Institute – Cherry Hill, NJ.** Provide in-home Discrete Trial Training Therapy for special needs students as per their IEPs during the 2008-2009 school year. Services will be provided for ten (10) hours per week for forty-five (45) weeks at a rate of fifty-five dollars (\$55.00) per hour. In addition, consultation services will be provided for four (4) hours per month for ten (10) months at a rate of one hundred sixty-two dollars and fifty cents (\$162.50) per hour. Funding

will be paid from the 2008-2009 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed thirty-one thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$31,250.00).

5. **Melmark School – Berwyn, PA.** Provide educational and related services for the 2008-2009 school year to a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for two hundred fifteen (215) days at a rate of four hundred forty-two dollars and two cents (\$442.02) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed ninety-five thousand thirty-four dollars and thirty cents (\$95,034.30).
6. **Camphill Special School – Glenmoore, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for twenty-eight (28) days at a rate of two hundred thirty-one dollars and seventy-four cents (\$231.74) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 IDEA Funds and shall not exceed six thousand four hundred eighty-eight dollars and seventy-two cents (\$6,488.72).
7. **Maximizing Movement Therapy Services – Havertown, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Physical Therapy services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for two (2) hours per week for a total of eighteen (18) hours at a rate of sixty-five dollars (\$65.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 IDEA Funds and shall not exceed one thousand one hundred seventy dollars (\$1,170.00).
8. **Therapy Source, Inc. – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Speech Therapy services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for forty-five (45) hours with an additional five (5) hours of training/in-service at a rate of eighty-four dollars (\$85.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 IDEA Funds and shall not exceed four thousand two hundred dollars (\$4,200.00).
9. **Caron Treatment Centers Student Assistance Program – Wernersville, PA.** Provide Student Assistance Program (SAP) Training for professional staff. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Safe and Drug Free Grant and shall not exceed seven thousand dollars (\$7,000.00).
10. **Loving Care Agency, Inc. – Ridgefield Park, NJ.** Provide Extended School Year Nursing services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for eight (8) hours per day for twenty-five (25) days for a total of two hundred (200) hours at a rate of sixty dollars (\$60.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 IDEA funds and shall not exceed twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000.00).
11. **Kerri Houser – Primos, PA.** Provide Extended School Year educational services for a special needs student as per the IEP.

Services will be provided for thirty-nine (39) hours at a rate of fifty-five dollars (\$55.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 IDEA Funds and shall not exceed two thousand one hundred forty-five dollars (\$2,145.00).

12. **Cathy Grayson – Bala Cynwyd, PA.** Provide training for staff members who work with students diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Training will be for six (6) sessions for a total of thirty-four (34) hours total at a rate of one hundred twenty dollars (\$120.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed four thousand eighty dollars (\$4,080.00).
13. **Lapreziosa Occupational Therapist Services – Pottstown, PA.** Provide Occupational Therapy Services for the 2008-2009 school year for special needs students as per their IEPs. The contract addresses direct intervention, consultation, indirect services (i.e. meetings, in-service, paperwork), evaluations, and home visits. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed five hundred twelve thousand nine hundred forty-nine dollars (\$512,949.00).
14. **Susan Parsons – Wallingford, PA.** Provide Extended School Year services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided at a rate of fifty-five dollars (\$55.00) per hour for six (6) hours. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 IDEA Funds and shall not exceed three hundred thirty dollars (\$330.00).
15. **Wilson Language Training – Oxford, MA.** Provide Level I Intensive Course Certification for ten (10) teachers in the Wilson Reading System. This contract includes a start-up seminar, online course work, a student practicum and live observations of work with students. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Staff Development Budget and shall not exceed fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000.00).
16. **Wilson Language Training – Oxford, MA.** Provide two (2) days of Wilson System Overview teacher training, including fees, trainer expenses and materials. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Staff Development Budget and shall not exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00).
17. **The Food Trust – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide consultation services for the design and implementation of impact evaluation of Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Healthy Choices Grant activities, including survey development, data analysis, report writing, and strategic assistance as well as transportation and meeting time during the 2008-2009 school year. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation Grant and shall not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00).
18. **Insight ELL – Chicago, Illinois.** Provide a full day summer course on English Language Learner training for regular and ESL teachers.

Funding will be paid from the 2007-2008 Title III Grant Funds and shall not exceed three thousand one hundred fifty dollars (\$3,150.00).

19. **PA National Archery in the Schools Program – Horsham, PA.** Provide certification training for physical education teachers. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Staff Development Budget and shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).
20. **Dr. Frederick Fisher – Wynnewood, PA.** Provide psychiatric services, evaluations and re-evaluations for the 2008-2009 school year. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed fifteen thousand four dollars (\$15,004.00).
21. **Dr. Karen Kreider – Royersford, PA.** Provide instruction for dual enrollment course offerings, World Civilizations I and World Civilizations II for 4 sections scheduled for the 2008-2009 school year. Funding will be provided from the 2008-2009 New Personnel allocation and shall not exceed twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000.00).
22. **Therapy Source, Inc. – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Speech Therapy Services for special needs students as per their IEP's. Services will be provided for eighteen (18) hours per week for five (5) weeks plus ten (10) hours of training/in-service, and the preparation of progress reports at a rate of seventy-two dollars per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 IDEA Funds and shall not exceed seven thousand two hundred dollars (\$7,200.00).

**New Independent Contracts:**

23. **High School to Work Transition Services – Telford, PA.** Provide transition and pre-employment services for the 2008-2009 school year for two (2) special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided at a rate of one thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$1,750.00) per marking period per student. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed a total of fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000.00).
24. **Camp Joy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for twenty-four (24) days at a rate of one hundred forty dollars (\$140.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 IDEA Funds and shall not exceed three thousand three hundred sixty dollars (\$3,360.00).
25. **The Devereaux Foundation – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Services for five (5) special needs students as per their IEPs. Funding will be paid from the 2008-2009 IDEA Funds and shall not exceed one hundred ten thousand two hundred fourteen dollars (\$110,214.00).

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item G and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. Mr. Masciandaro questioned what the average net effect is after the gambling revenue is factored in for this year. Mr. Anspach responded that using the average assessment value of \$153,093 and multiplying that by the millage rate of 22.19 generates an additional tax increase of \$140.85 but when using the gambling revenue reduction of \$206.74 the net decrease over last year's taxes comes out to \$65.89.

Dr. Hurda asked what percentage of approved homestead residents will see a reduction in their taxes and Mr. Anspach answered 81%.

Mr. Grispon asked how many residents applied for the homestead exclusion and Mr. Anspach replied 80%. Mrs. Williams asked if those residents who did not apply will have another opportunity and Mr. Anspach said every year residents will be given the chance to apply for the exclusion and that information can be found on our district website.

The motion passed 8-0.

- G. The Board approved **Resolution 2008-19** for the adoption of the 2008-2009 General Fund Budget.

Mr. Shafer asked that Item J be separated.

Mr. Morgan made a motion to approve Items H-I and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- H. The Board approved **Resolution 2008-20** for the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion beginning July 1, 2008.

- I. The Board approved the following Maintenance Service Agreements for the 2008-2009 school year:

1. Simplex Grinnell		
NT-400 Access Control System Maintenance Agreement	\$	8,860.00
2. Simplex Grinnell		
Inspection Service of Fire and Alarm Systems	\$	18,496.71
3. Brocks Fire Protection		
Portable Fire Extinguisher Insp. (approx.)	\$	3,600.00
Kitchen Hood Fire Suppression Systems	\$	1,069.50
4. Anchor Fire Sprinkler System Inspection	\$	5,400.00
5. Johnson Controls		
HVAC & ATC Controls	\$	106,655.00

6. Carrier Corp.		
	Heat Pumps (Interm./Middle, Upper Providence Elem., 9 <sup>th</sup> Gr.Ctr.)	\$ 55,800.00
7. Secure-A-Home		
	Security Monitoring	\$ 3,820.00
8. Aqua Wastewater		
	Kitchen Grease Trap Cleaning	\$ 1,555.00
9. Kensol Airways		
	Kitchen Hood Exhaust Cleaning & Dishwasher Exhaust Cleaning	\$ 3,700.00
10. Fleming Pest Control		
	Integrated Pest Management Serv.	\$ 6,920.00
11. R.J. McCarville Assoc.		
	Bleacher Inspections	\$ 2,560.00
12. R.J. McCarville Assoc.		
	Folding Door/Partition Inspection	\$ 8,600.00

Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Item J and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Shafer commented that in looking at the large amount of money that the district spends on paper he wondered if there were some initiative that could be looked in order to see if we can lower our costs and use of paper. Dr. Hurda pointed out that we do get our paper through the Intermediate Unit which is a consortium so it is a competitive bid. Dr. Hurda stated that it is a good suggestion and one that can be looked into.

The motion passed 8-0

J. The Board approved the following bid awards for the 2008-2009 school year:

1. <u>COPIER PAPER – M.C.I.U.</u>		
	Paper Mart	\$ 156,881.59
	TOTAL	\$ 156,881.59
2. <u>PAPER SUPPLIES</u>		
	Becker's School Supplies	\$ 4,356.14
	Kurtz Brothers	\$ 20,226.95
	School Specialty Inc.	\$ 2,623.59
	TOTAL	\$ 27,206.68
3. <u>SCIENCE SUPPLIES – SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL</u>		
	Carolina Biological Supply Co.	\$ 447.65
	Fisher Scientific Company LLC	\$ 759.73
	Frey Scientific Company	\$ 664.79
	Nasco	\$ 1,959.39



Para Scientific	\$	22.50
Science Kit LLC	\$	905.72
VWR Scientific Products	\$	<u>1,339.49</u>
TOTAL	\$	6,099.27

4. PUBLICATIONS

Kalil's Printing Inc. (9,350) Calendars, Elementary & Intermediate Handbooks, Post Secondary Planning Guide, Newsletters (4 Issues)	\$	31,800.00
Premier Agendas Middle School & Senior High Handbooks School Smart – Primary, Elementary & Elementary/Middle Schools Student Planners	\$	<u>18,634.85</u>
TOTAL	\$	50,434.85

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items K-P and Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- K. The Board approved the Salary Book for the 2008 -2009 school year.
- L. The Board approved **Resolution #2008-21** authorizing a lease and sublease among the Spring-Ford Area School District, the Pottsgrove School District, the Upper Perkiomen School District, the Western Center for Technical Studies and the State Public School Building Authority and ratifying the actions of the officers of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District in executing the lease and the sublease.
- M. The Board approved the Future Financial Plans found in the 2008-2009 Final Budget Book, Section H. These documents are fiscal plans used by the Finance Committee and are part of the 2008- 2009 Budget. These plans assist the district in preparing for the future obligations and financial needs of the district.
- N. The Board approved paying the outstanding obligations of the 2007/2008 fiscal year for which invoices have not yet been received or processed prior to the June Board meeting.
- O. The Board approved issuing purchase orders in July and August in favor of those firms that qualify under the provisions of the Public School Code for formal awards by the Board of Directors. The law requires that awards be made to the lowest responsible bidder on items specified or items equal thereto. Board authorization will help to assure that materials and supplies required for the beginning of the new school year will be received on times.
- P. The Edwin A. Thomas fund has earned interest of \$1,154.55. According to the stipulation, interest earned shall be allocated towards purchase of library books. The Board approved the acceptance of this donation.

Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Item Q and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- Q. The Board approved awarding a contract based on state pricing quotes to IKON Office Solutions, Inc., King of Prussia, PA, for the lease of 11 photocopiers (11 replacements) throughout the buildings in the amount of \$3,851.00 per month for a 4 year lease including maintenance and supplies. The next lowest state pricing quote was from Canon Business Solutions at a cost of \$3,938.00.

Mr. Grispon made a motion to approve Item R and Mr. Morgan seconded it.

Mr. Dehnert commented that he believes it is bad practice not to competitively bid something of this value. Mr. Morgan asked if this item was competitively bid and Mr. Anspach said no. Mr. Anspach reported that we use an agent who actively shops the market and looks at the competitive rates. Mr. Anspach said the agent gave the rates to the Finance Committee to look at along with positives and negatives of each policy plan. The Finance Committee concurred that this was the best rate for this type of policy. Mr. Grispon said this is a specialized market as there are so many things incorporated into this policy. Mr. Dehnert said he spoke to an insurance broker he knows who also does school insurance and the broker advised him that the insurance industry is very competitive for rates. Mr. Anspach stated that he would be almost certain that the insurance company Mr. Dehnert spoke to does not carry School Board Legal insurance as this is a specialized area dealing with special education. Mr. Dehnert said he is not sure what is not covered but his opinion that if there is more than one company then it should be competitive bid.

The motion passed 7-1 with Mr. Dehnert voting no.

- R. The Board approved accepting the 2008-2009 insurance proposals from Palley Simon. The proposals are as follows: Utica National Insurance package which includes automobile, boiler, and machinery at a cost of \$295,090; PSBA/Old Republic Umbrella Policy with a limit of \$15,000,000 at a cost of \$26,624; National Union School Board Liability Insurance at a cost of \$41,950. The total premium for these insurance policies is \$363,664.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items S-X and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- S. The Board approved the acceptance of quotes received by the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit for CBIZ Benefits & Insurance Services to utilize the services of American Management Advisors and the ACE American Insurance Company for Student Accident Insurance and All Sports coverage including Intramural Sports. ACE American Insurance Company will be underwriting the coverage which will be administered by American Management Advisor, Inc. The catastrophic coverage will remain with AIG Life which is also administered by American Management Advisor, Inc. These costs, which remain the same as last year, are as follows:

All Sports (Includes Intramural Sports 5-12)	\$	7,000.00
Catastrophic Medical Coverage – Students in Interscholastic Sports	\$	<u>1,700.00</u>
<b>District Sponsored Payment</b>	\$	<u>8,700.00</u>

**Parent Responsibility**

Voluntary School-Time Coverage	\$	22.00
Voluntary 24-Hour Coverage	\$	88.00

- T. The Board approved the submission of PlanCon K for the purpose of receiving state reimbursement for the cash pay off of the New Garden Authority – General Obligation Note of 2000 (lease #00-2690) in the amount of \$7,790,070 as approved by the Board on March 25, 2008.
  
- U. The Board approved the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit to provide Medical Practitioner Services for the 2008-2009 school year for the review of special education students IEP's per Medical Assistance requirements for participation in the program. This service is provided to the Spring-Ford Area School District at no charge.

**NEW FINANCE**

- W. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market – May 2008
- PSDLAF – May 2008
- PSDMAX – May 2008
- Checking Account – May 2008
- PLGIT Account – May 2008
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule – May 2008
- Payroll Account – May 2008
- Tax Account – May 2008

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – May 2008
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity – May 2008
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity – May 2008
- High School Activity – May 2008
- Athletic Account – May 2008

Bond Funds

- Note of 2003 – May 2008
- Note of 2004 – May 2008

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – May 2008
- Debt Service Fund – May 2008
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – May 2008

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – May 2008
- Cafeteria Checking Account – May 2008
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – May 2008

- Investment Account – May 2008

- W. The Board approved the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:  
APRIL  
 Check No. 8015 – 8134 \$ 23,158.28
- X. The Board approved the following **additions** and **deletions** from the per capita tax for the 2007-2008 school year:
- |                                     |           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Limerick Township Additions         | 39 - 177  |
| Limerick Township Deletions         | 711 – 717 |
| Royersford Borough Deletions        | 454 – 460 |
| Spring City Additions               | 40 – 140  |
| Spring City Deletions               | 208 – 245 |
| Upper Providence Township Additions | 202 – 541 |
| Upper Providence Township Deletions | 317 – 506 |

**VI. PROPERTY**

Mr. Morgan made a motion to approve Items A-G and Mrs. Mullin seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved moving forward with the construction of a pond and habitat to be located at Oaks Elementary School behind the first grade classrooms. This pond would provide a school yard habitat (garden, pond, and nesting sites) for the purpose of teaching hands-on lessons in environment, ecology and the Globe Program. This habitat would be a resource for the Oaks Elementary School students, as well as all elementary school students, to visit and use for studying opportunities. The cost of this project will be funded through grants and private funding and will be done at no cost to the school district.
- B. The Board approved awarding the contract for VCT Tile installation at Brooke, Oaks and Royersford Elementary Schools to Hood Floors, Inc., Lambertville, New Jersey and rejecting all other bids. Work will be completed during the summer months. Funding will come from the 2008-2009 General Fund – Maintenance Budget and shall not exceed \$28,343.61.
- C. The Board rescinded the approval given at last month’s Board meeting for filters to DFC Industries in the amount of \$25,525.00 because the sample provided did not meet the specifications as outlined in the bid documents.
- D. The Board approved awarding the contract for stock and custom filters needed throughout the district to A.C.I.A., Ltd. of York, PA and rejecting all other bids. Funding will come from the 2008-2009 General Fund – Maintenance Budget and shall not exceed \$30,724.51.
- E. The Board approved awarding the contract for Wall Tile Installation at the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center to Al Swanson, Ceramic Tile, Inc., Pottstown, PA and rejecting all other bids. Work will be completed during the summer months. Funding will be paid from the General Fund – Maintenance Budget and shall not exceed \$22,270.00.

- F. The Board gave approval for an engineer to prepare documentation to go out to bid for the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue extension at the rear of the high school. Bids would be sent out after all the documents have been received, reviewed and approved. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Account.
- G. The Board gave approval for an engineer to prepare drawings and specifications for an electrical capacitor bank for the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center. The installation of a capacitor bank would reduce the utility costs and should pay for itself within three years, at the current rates. The cost estimate is between \$65,000 - \$75,000. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Account.

Mr. Grispon made a motion for new item under property which will be Letter H and Mr. Morgan seconded it. There was no public comment on this new motion.

The motion reads as follows:

- H. Administration recommends Board approval to allow Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into negotiations with the Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Consortium to enter into an Easement Agreement with regards to district property.

The motion passed 8-0.

- H. The Board approved Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into negotiations with the Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Consortium to enter into an Easement Agreement with regards to district property.

## **VII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-D and Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board approved the hourly rate of \$27.50 for Community Education Instructors contracted with the district during the 2008-2009 school year.
- B. The Board approved submission of the 2008-2009 Title I Federal Program Grant – Improving Basic Programs in the amount of \$230,028.00. This is an increase of \$38,115.00 over last year's allocation.
- C. The Board approved submission of the 2008-2009 Title II, Part A, Federal Program Grant – Improving Teacher Quality in the amount of \$132,846.00. This is an increase of \$6,029.00 over last year's allocation.
- D. The Board approved acceptance of the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant in the amount of \$95,187.00. This is an increase of \$21,487.00 over last year's allocation. This grant will continue to support our district-wide Healthy Choices Program.

## **VIII. PSBA REPORT**

### **JOHN S. GRISPON**

Mr. Grispon gave the following report:

The Senate Appropriations Committee voted on Senate Bill 1389 Monday night, June 16<sup>th</sup>, to cut \$118 Million from the basic ed. subsidy amount. This particular piece of legislation was voted strictly on party lines for the Republicans to send a message that they are unhappy with the Governor's proposal. Several of the senators' legislative aides have assured us that they don't really mean to cut basic ed. subsidy, but SB 1389 will proceed to the full Senate for consideration.

The PA School Funding Campaign has prepared four amendments for legislative consideration. The four issues are: a) change the formula to use student membership rather than local wealth; b) assure transition funding for all districts of 2% assistance; c) include a plan that addresses special education; and d) apply accountability provisions only to districts that fail to make adequate yearly progress (APY).

The Governor's office specifically requested that these amendments not be submitted during the first week of June so that the House Education Committee could report a clean bill out of committee and get the legislation discussed in the larger arena.

Some legislators are predicting that the budget will be adopted as late as July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Governor Rendell recently meant with the caucuses to urge weekly meetings in June in order to have the budget adopted by the end of June.

The Governor is threatening to furlough 25,000 employees July 1 if the budget has not been adopted. The Senate began holding hearings to discuss the necessity of implementing furloughs immediately.

### **PSERS Payments**

As budget discussions continue, the Rendell administration recently released a white paper describing a plan to deal with the "spike" in employer contributions to the PSERS that will occur in 2012-2013 largely because of pension increases contained in Act 9 of 2001. As things stand currently, school district contributions to the system will increase 153% between 2011 -2012 and 2012 – 2013.

The governor is proposing a plan that would keep the employer contribution rate at its current rate of 6.44 %, plus adjustments based on PSERS' funded status, which would add an additional 0.75% to the rate. Additional adjustments would be added in years of protracted market downturns. All of this adds up to a potential employer contribution rate for 2008-2009 of 7.19%, with school districts paying half that, or 3.595% of payroll.

**Certain trade unions are asking the state Senate to consider an amendment to the omnibus School Code bill that would amend Section 1714 - B Mandate Waiver Program to add Section 751, the section of the School Code dealing with the separate prime contract requirement, to the list of sections of the School Code that cannot be waived under the mandate waiver program. This would be a trade-off for the unions' not asking for an amendment to another bill (SB 1412) to require prevailing wage on building projects within a Keystone Opportunity Zone.**

**The amendment regarding separate prime contracts is expected to be**

**offered to the omnibus School Code bill that will be enacted in the coming weeks in conjunction with the provisions of the 2008-09 state budget.**

Since 2000, school districts have saved an estimated \$100 million, far more than has been saved on any other type of mandate waiver granted.

**IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

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

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

**DISTRICT-WIDE**

- A. **Johnna Weller**, Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction, **Mitch Edmunds**, **Michael Siggins** and **Dr. Tina Weidenbaugh**, Principals, **Alice Alba**, **Jeanette Hellauer**, **Jan Pymmer**, **Kristin Williams**, **Mary Pat Long**, **Wendy Taylor**, **Devon Jarvie**, **Melinda Klunk**, **Louise Plush**, **Cheryl West**, **Colleen Antal** and **Mary Palladino**, Teachers, to attend the *“Governor’s Institute for Data-Driven Instructional Practices in Reading and Mathematics for School Improvement”* at the Milton Hershey School in Hershey, PA from Sunday, July 13 through Friday, July 18, 2008. All workshop fees, lodging, breakfasts and lunches will be covered by the State and will be of no cost to the District. The District will cover the costs of dinners and transportation for the sixteen attendees. The total cost to the District for this workshop will be \$2,340.00 from the 2008-2009 580 account. No substitutes are needed.
  
- B. **Johnna L. Weller**, Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction, to attend *“Differentiated Instruction: Making Sure We Get It Right”* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit on Friday, October 17 and Friday, December 5, 2008. The total cost for this conference is \$345.00 from the 2008-2009 580 account. No substitute is needed.
  
- C. **Tara Chester**, ESL Teacher, to attend *“PDE – ESL Conference: Multiple Cultures/Multiple Voices”* at the Hilton in Harrisburg, PA on Monday, August 11 and Tuesday, August 12, 2008. The total cost of this conference is \$471.07 from the 2008-2009 580 account. No substitute is needed.
  
- D. **Denise Whitmore**, Head Custodian, to attend *“Hillyard Facilities Management Clinic”* in Kansas City, Missouri from Tuesday, October 14 through Friday, October 17, 2008. The total cost of this training is \$1400.00 - \$800.00 from the 2008-2009 580 account and \$600.00 from the substitute account.

**HIGH SCHOOL**

- E. **Deborah Mancini** and **P. Josée Voorstad**, Chemistry Teachers, to attend *“The American Chemical Society – High School Teachers Program”* at the Chemical Heritage Foundation in Philadelphia, PA on Sunday, August 17, 2008. The total cost for this conference is \$276.00 from the 2008-2009 580 account. No substitutes are needed.
- F. **Barbara O’Brien**, Media Specialist, to attend *“PA State Librarian’s Association Professional Development Workshop”* in State College, PA on Thursday, July 31, 2008. The only cost for this workshop is \$200.00 for mileage from the 2008-2009 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- G. **Bruce Cope**, Teacher, to attend *“AP French Language Summer Institute”* at Penn State Abington from Monday, August 4 through Friday, August 8, 2008. The total cost of this conference is \$941.95 from the 2008-2009 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- H. **John Holsinger**, Teacher, to attend *“Graphing Technology Workshop – High School Mathematics with the TI-Navigator using the TI-84 Plus Silver Edition”* at West Chester University from Monday, June 23 through Friday, June 27, 2008. The total cost of this workshop is \$861.34 from the 2007-2008 Technology Budget. No substitute is needed.

**New Conference/Workshop Recommendation**

- I. **Celeste Foresta**, Administrative Assistant, to attend *“My Learning Plan Academy”* at the Sheraton Park Ridge in King of Prussia, PA on Wednesday, September 17 and Thursday, September 18, 2008. The total cost of this workshop is \$460.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

- A. The following policies are submitted for approval :
  - 1. Policy #602 – FINANCES: Budget Planning **(to be rescinded)**
  - 2. Policy #603 – FINANCES: Budget Preparation
  - 3. Policy #604 – FINANCES: Budget Adoption
- B. Administration recommends that student number 40708 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions outlined by the Superintendent.
- C. The following policies are submitted as a first reading:
  - 1. Policy #121.1 – PROGRAMS: Overnight/Foreign Travel



**XI. INFORMATION ITEM**

Mrs. Williams stated that the Board and Administration acknowledges and thanks the Evans Home and School Association for their generous donation.

- A. Administration acknowledges the acceptance of the donation of \$8,600.00 from Evans Elementary Home and School Association for the purchase of playground equipment for Evans Elementary School. This amount also includes the standard 20% District Fee as per Board Policy #702.

**XII. DISCUSSION ITEM**

**A. District Accomplishments/Highlights**

Dr. Hurda commented that nothing gets done in the district alone and this is really a team of ten. Everything that is accomplished in terms of curriculum and instruction cost money and none of it would occur without the support of the Board.

Dr. Hurda and Mrs. Williams reported on a list of accomplishments and highlights for the past year as well as those in progress for the upcoming years with regards to the Superintendent/Board Goals that were adopted at the January 28, 2008 Board meeting.

Mr. Masciandaro commented that the list of accomplishments/highlights is a great list and one that we should be very proud of. He thanked Dr. Hurda and her staff for all the accomplishments of this year. Mr. Masciandaro stated that he hopes we continue on this trend on the path to greatness.

Mr. Shafer commented that with regards to goal number five which taps into working smarter which is sometimes is a bit easier to do than working harder but with a combination of both you get great results. He thanked Dr. Hurda for her efforts in working smarter and thinking outside of the box especially with regards to some of the employment decisions that were made. Mr. Shafer suggested that next year we put a dollar amount on some of the personnel savings as it is more than likely a large amount.

Mrs. Williams thanked Julie Mullin, Mark Dehnert and David Shafer for coming onboard very well prepared and ready to work in the best interest of the district. Mrs. Williams also thanked Dr. Hurda and her staff. Mrs. Williams thanked all of the district parents for the time they invest, the calls, and the methods by which they communicate with the Board. She urged the parents to keep the correspondence coming as the Board is there to answer their questions.

Dr. Hurda thanked Mrs. Williams for her leadership and the wonderful job she has done as the Board President steering the Board and allowing them as a team to accomplish so many great things. Dr. Hurda commented that she does not think the public realizes the amount of unpaid time spent by the Board Members out sometimes two and three nights a week in order to get these goals accomplished.

Mrs. Williams reminded the public that at each of our schools there are paper recycling bins that accept all paper that is not cardboard or plastic. Mrs. Williams said the best part of this is that the district is paid for the amount of paper recycled.

**XIII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

No report.

**XIV. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

There were no questions or comments.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Grispon made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

**008 SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD GOALS  
ADOPTED 1-28-08**

1. Continue to move forward with the development of the educational specifications for the High School Renovation/Addition Project.
2. Continue to address the growing enrollment at the 5,6,7,8 level by moving forward with Phase II Feasibility Study.
3. Continue to monitor and adjust (when practical) District-Wide Curriculum & Instruction including such areas as: Academic Programming, High School Scheduling, Graduation Requirements, New Course Offerings, Co-Teaching, New Program Requirements at the Western Center for Technical Studies, Graduation Rates, Dropout Rates, Scholarships, College Acceptance Rates and Feedback from Past Graduates.
4. Provide leadership in the development of the 2008-2013 Spring-Ford School District Strategic Plan.
5. Increase organizational effectiveness and efficiency by assessing "Where we are and where we need to be in terms of each major department within the District."

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Fern  
Board Secretary