

On June 27, 2011 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: Edward T. Dressler, Jr. and Bernard F. Pettit

Region II:

Region III: Mark P. Dehnert and Thomas J. DiBello

Presiding Officer: Joseph P. Ciresi

Superintendent:

Business Manager: Timothy Anspach

Solicitor: Marc Davis, Esq.

Student Rep.: Elizabeth Brady

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

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Ciresi announced that the Board met in an executive session regarding impending litigation. Mr. Ciresi announced that the Spring-Ford Educational Foundation's Summer Concert is planned for Friday, July 8, 2011. The Upper Darby Sousa Band will be performing starting at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of Spring-Ford High School. Call 610-705-6001 for more information. Mr. Ciresi announced that the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue and Gold Golf Outing which is hosted by the Spring-Ford Educational Foundation will be held on Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at Turtle Creek Golf Course. Call 610-705-6203 for additional information. Mr. Ciresi welcomed Dr. Goodin to the meeting tonight saying this will be his first unofficial official meeting with the district.

### **I. PRESENTATIONS**

Mr. Cooper reported that two years ago the district started conserving energy by reducing our energy costs for utilities which include electric, gas, water, sewer and service contracts by implementing a number of new items and procedures. The first step was instituting an energy policy for winter and summer temperature controls. New energy efficient light bulbs were installed, lighting adjustments were made for example during the daytime only every other light is turned on, and staff members were reminded to be conscientious of turning off lights when they are not in their classrooms as well as turning copiers, televisions, and projectors off at the end of the day and when not in use. The district enrolled in the PECO Energy Curtailment and PECO Smart Idea Program. The HVAC Team was revamped and a specialist was hired to oversee the district's HVAC Systems, this change allowed for more work to be done in-house and cut back on the district's need for outside contractors. Older Chillers were replaced with new more efficient chillers. Activities in the buildings during the summer months were limited to three buildings in order to save energy and wear and tear on facilities and equipment. The Athletic Department adjusted their outside events in order to conserve lighting helped the district realize a savings. Mr. Cooper reported that in tracking the district's electrical consumption over the past year it can be determined that the

district has saved over 1.3 million kilowatt hours which has resulted in over \$300,000 in savings. Other areas that resulted in savings for the district were the lowering of HVAC service contracts for a savings of approximately \$150,000, filter savings of approximately \$25,000, utility (gas, water, sewer) savings of approximately \$10,000, and if you include the money the district has received as part of the curtailment program the total savings are in the area of approximately \$500,000. Mr. Cooper reported that for the past three years the budget for the Maintenance Department has remained the same and actually was reduced by \$150,000. Mr. Cooper commented that his department will continue to look into savings with the HVAC operations, solar power, and geothermal in an effort to save even more in the upcoming year. Mr. Cooper stated that everything he discussed was only possibly through a team effort and he credited the Board, the Administration, the Building Administration and staff, and all of the department directors and their staff.

Mr. DiBello stated that the Property Committee felt that it would be important to have Mr. Cooper give this presentation at tonight's meeting in order to show the public that the district is making reductions in energy usage. Mr. DiBello pointed out that the \$500,000 in savings for the year is ongoing so that will be \$500,000 each year and over a ten year period we are talking about \$5 million in savings for the district. Mr. DiBello applauded Mr. Cooper and his department for looking diligently at sources in the district where cuts could be made as this has resulted in substantial savings.

Mr. Dehnert commented that when he was out running on Saturday he passed by the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center and the unit near the gym area kicked on, he questioned whether it was just circulating the air. Mr. Cooper responded that the chiller units have some unoccupied modes. The gym areas need to be climate controlled due to the flooring and the temperature for these areas is set at 80 degrees so the unit more than likely kicked on in order to maintain the proper temperature setting

Mr. Dressler asked Mr. Cooper where we are with the solar panel system that the district was looking into. Mr. Cooper replied they did talk to a few companies and there will be presentations coming up in August. Mr. DiBello commented that at the last Property Committee meeting they asked Mr. Cooper to start having solar companies come to the Property Committee meetings in August and September and do a presentation in order to have a better idea of where we want to go with this.

Mr. Ciresi thanked Mr. Cooper saying that the presentation showed the diligence of Mr. Cooper and his staff and how they took making cuts seriously but yet managed to keep the district functioning at a high level. Mr. Ciresi asked if when the district is looking into solar energy if they will be looking at some of the land the district owns to be used as solar fields which could potentially be sold back into the grid. Mr. Cooper replied this was discussed and the companies coming in to do presentations will be looking into this but we are a public non-profit school so it is not the same as if we were a private business. Mr. Ciresi stated that at the Western Center there are 75 acres of land that is just open field so maybe we could look into that and possibly partner up with the two other sending districts in order to drop the utility costs down in that building as well.

- A. Presentation by **Bruce Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations & Facilities, on the District's 2010-2011 school year energy conservation and savings.

## II. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no questions or comments.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 5-0.

A. The Board approved the April 18, 2011 Work Session minutes.

B. The Board approved the April 26, 2011 Board Meeting minutes.

**IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Policy**

**Donna Williams**

**1<sup>st</sup> Weds. 7:00 p.m.**

No report.

**WCTS**

**Ciresi, Dressler, Mullin**

**1<sup>st</sup> Mon. 7:00 p.m.**

Mr. Ciresi reported that the Joint Operating Committee met and for the most part the agenda was basic with the only issue of substance was the discussion regarding the ongoing drainage problem. Mr. Ciresi commented that the Board was told there would be new piping installed that would lead down to the stream. The piping led down Gratersford Road but stopped on someone's personal property without the knowledge of the homeowner. The Board went back and forth with the architect and the engineer. The solution that was offered was that the engineer would incur all costs to remove what had been done to the homeowner's property and the Board would spend \$35,000 more for piping to correct the problem and the homeowner was satisfied with that. Mr. Ciresi reported that the JOC was not thrilled with what the architect and engineer had done but hopefully the problem has now been taken care of as it has been going on way too long. Mr. Ciresi reported that the JOC also discussed enrollment numbers and Spring-Ford's numbers were predicted to be in the 150 range and right now we are at 110 and have consistently been at 110. Mr. Ciresi stated that the JOC is not thrilled with the numbers; the building has been built so the students would come and they are still not coming at the numbers everyone would like to see. Mr. Ciresi commented that the JOC discussed what they can do to increase the enrollment.

Mr. Davis reported that another topic discussed was that administration reported that the contractor was not doing his job in terms of finishing the punch list items. The Board authorized the solicitor to take steps under the contract to have someone else do the work. The required notice under the contract was given and it now appears that the original contractor has been out there nonstop working on the punch list items. Mr. DiBello asked if we had withheld some of the contractor's money until all the items were complete and Mr. Davis replied yes and gave the formula used.

Mr. DiBello commented that we currently have 118 students enrolled at the Western Center and it is projected that we are looking at potentially a 20% increase for next year. Mr. DiBello stated that he went back and looked at the past eight years and found that we on an average send 105 students to the Western Center. Mr. DiBello said the frustrating thing is that when you do the simple math it is costing Spring-Ford \$26,000 per year to send students there for ½ a day and then on top of that when we bring them back here for their academics we pay approximately \$6,000 per year for the ½ day here. Mr. DiBello commented that we are basically paying about \$32,000 per year to educate one kid that goes to a ½ day vocational school and a ½ day high school. Mr. DiBello reported that we could send this same student to a private vocational school and pay the tuition cheaper.

Mr. Ciresi asked what the debt service was on the vocational building? Mr. Anspach began looking for that information.

Mr. Dehnert commented that we need a plan to get more students enrolled. Mr. Dehnert said we must first find out why kids do not go there, is it that we are offering the wrong programs, and are kids not informed at a younger age. Mr. Dehnert stated that the discussion on the vocational center must begin before they get to 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

Mr. DiBello said he is not sure if Mr. Dehnert was on the Board when the renovation project was approved but the frustrating thing is that one would think that before the \$20 million project was approved we would have done the research on the programs as we have a dental hygienist shop sitting closed right now for the second year that we spent about \$300,000 - \$400,000 on.

Mr. Dehnert commented that he was not on the Board then but he feels that we do not need to look backwards but we need to look forwards as what was done was done. Mr. Dehnert stated that we have this building and it is a great facility so how do we get the most out of it. Mr. Dehnert said that we need to get a plan to do that rather than do some Monday morning quarterbacking as to why we didn't do what and why the decision was made. Mr. Dehnert stated that we really need these facilities for skills in the future as every kid cannot go to college so we are going to need mechanics, repairmen, and beauticians for those types of jobs that pay well.

Mr. DiBello stated that he was not saying that we do not need the programs as he fully supports the programs; he totally agrees that those trades need to be in place for the kids to get that type of education. Mr. DiBello stated that he has no problem being a Monday morning quarterback because \$20 million was spent and he wants to see what studies were used before we went and spent \$20 million.

Mr. Ciresi stated that if you go back and look at history our high school principals supported the idea being at the Western Center saying they could grow the program. Mr. Ciresi commented that it is now the second year in the new building and we still have not seen the numbers grow from Spring-Ford and he feels that we need to go back to our administration and hold their feet to the fire and say you wanted this, we built it and they didn't come so what is your plan because they must come or we have an issue. Mr. Ciresi stated that he was a major advocate for pulling out of the Western Center for the reason we are seeing right now. Mr. Ciresi said we are servicing 110 kids and we could have services 1700 here at home. Mr. Ciresi said it has nothing to do with not supporting vocational education but as we move forward we have the facility and it is now time for our administration to step up to the plate and come up with a plan to move this forward because this is not acceptable. Mr. Ciresi commented that the taxpayer money that is going out there for the amount of children we are sending is not acceptable. Mr. Ciresi stated you wanted it, you convinced the Board at the time to build it then you better put it in place and get it together because 110 kids is nowhere near acceptable. Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Anspach if he had the figures on the yearly cost of the Western Center and Mr. Anspach reported that the debt service for next year will be \$1,360,000 and the operating cost will be \$1,185,000 so the total will be approximately \$2.5 million. Mr. Ciresi stated that those 100+ kids are extremely important to the district and they should not be downgraded or underrated but we have this beautiful facility that no one even knows exists. Mr. Ciresi stated that in speaking with the Executive Director at the Western Center part of the reason why our enrollment is low is because Spring-Ford is not pushing their kids at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level where the other sending districts were. There was talk about a 9<sup>th</sup> grade exploratory program so that those students could visit the facility in hopes of boosting some of the enrollment numbers. Mr. Ciresi stated that Spring-Ford's commute is the shortest commute and we have the smallest amount of kids where Upper Perkiomen has

the longest commute and has the largest number of kids so there is something here that is not right. Mr. Ciresi commented that if we knew we could not get the kids there then we should have never invested. Mr. Ciresi stated that this all plays into where we just closed our budget for next year, this is all about debt service and what future burdens there are and that burden will sit with us forever. Mr. Ciresi questioned if we could have done the program at home cheaper with the high school expansion and responded yes definitely but our administration said no and he disagrees 100% with that. Mr. Ciresi stated that we could have done this program at home, done it more efficiently and had 100% control from Spring-Ford. Mr. Ciresi commented that having said that he thinks that as we move forward and with Dr. Goodin hearing us say this we need to motivate. Mr. Ciresi stated that there were studies that were done and those studies need to come back out and we need to see what survey options there are as we are not as successful as other vocational programs not only around the state but within the region. We scored extremely high on the last scores we saw come through which was great but without kids in the building the scores do not really mean much. Mr. Ciresi said we have been burdened over the last year with issue after issue which hopefully will finally come to a close. Mr. Ciresi urged parents watching the Board meeting to go out and see the building as they have come a long way and if any children are interested in any of the trades then this is definitely the way to go but the biggest issue we deal with is that our kids do not want to leave the high school for ½ a day and that is the biggest dilemma we have but there is no way to get around that.

Mr. Pettit commented that we talk about our administration and our ability to market the Western Center and he asked if some of this should not fall on the Western Center themselves. They should be marketing the students to try to attract them and bring the programs they need. Mr. Pettit stated that Spring-Ford is only 3 members of a 9 member Board and we have a very limited say and we are spending the vast majority of money in that place and it is insane. Mr. Pettit said he thinks that the Western Center should have their feet put to the fire to start trying to do what they can to get the necessary programs, to do the studies, to see what the kids are interested in, where they can go, what's lucrative and what's not.

Mr. Ciresi added that he was not part of the process of construction but we have a vocational school and Mr. Cooper just gave a report about energy savings and we renovated this building and spent \$40million dollars and did not think to put solar energy into the building or geothermal. Mr. Ciresi said he agrees with Mr. Pettit that Western Center's feet need to be held to the fire but we need to get on the ball too as a district and get our kids out there.

Mr. Dressler commented that the programs that are offered at the Western Center are the ones that the state projected were the most viable careers for this area of the state and his understanding is that we are restricted to what programs can be offered based on the state's recommendation. Mr. Dressler stated that obviously the state's research has fumbled in some of these programs if we have a program that is totally empty out at the Western Center which is such a waste. Mr. Dressler asked why we are not teaching a program on solar energy. Mr. Dressler reported that they did have a program to help train the school guidance counselors on how to introduce the vocational programs to students in 9<sup>th</sup> grade so they have been trying to do some things but they need to do more. Mr. Dressler asked if Dr. Goodin had any ideas.

Dr. Goodin said this is certainly something he is going to have to look into and there is a large opportunity available for students in the skills and trades. Dr. Goodin stated that he needs to take a look at what is going on at the Western Center, how they are marketing their programs but also get a better feel from students on what their reasoning is for the lack of participation. Dr. Goodin commented that if we can identify the issues then maybe we can rectify them.

**V. PERSONNEL**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-J and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 5-0.

**A. Resignations:**

1. **Corey Jones**, High School; Assistant Principal, effective with the last work day June 30, 2011.
2. **Dr. Leslie Morrill**, Spring City Elementary; Principal, for the purpose of retirement, effective August 2, 2011.
3. **Lynda Ayres**, 5/6 Grade Center; Part-time Food Service Employee, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 17, 2011.
4. **Daniel R. Curren**, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Custodian, effective with the last work day June 6, 2011.
5. **Barbara J. Nash**, Limerick Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for the purpose of retirement, effective with the last school day, June 16, 2011.
6. **Mary Ann Warburton**, Evans Elementary School; Library Assistant, for the purpose of retirement, effective with the last school day, June 16, 2011.

**B. Leaves of Absence:**

1. **Melanie F. Bowen**, High School; Social Studies Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 23, 2011 until the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the second semester of the 2011/2012 school year.
2. **Catherine Cabrera**, Oaks Elementary School; Speech Therapist, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective June 13, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
3. **Andrea Curry**, High School; Chemistry Teacher, for an *extended* Leave of Absence in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 23, 2011 for the 2011/2012 school year.
4. **Brigitte Diaz**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective June 8, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
5. **Mary E. Enge**, High School; Librarian, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective May 23, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.

6. **Joanne DeMeno**, High School; English Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, tentatively effective September 2, 2011 through the 2011/2012 school year.
7. **Rachelle Hafer**, High School; English Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 23, 2011 until the beginning of the second marking period of the 2011/2012 school year.
8. **Linda Lawhorne**, High School; Custodian, for an unpaid Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective June 9, 2011 through June 30, 2011.
9. **Johanna McLaughlin**, High School; Part-time Food Service Employee, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Food Service Plan, effective May 31, 2011 for up to a maximum of 30 calendar days.
10. **James E. Reidnauer, II**, High School, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Custodian, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective May 25, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
11. **Wendy Taylor**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for an *extended* Leave of Absence in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 23, 2011 for the 2011/2012 school year.
12. **Megan E. Wiley**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Special Education Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective August 23, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.

**NEW LEAVES OF ABSENCE:**

13. **Crystal L. Smith**, Evans Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective tentatively November 2, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
14. **Miranda Paradise**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 23, 2011 for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the 2011/2012 school year.
15. **Nicole Tenthoff**, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Social Studies Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective tentatively, October 12, 2011 for the remainder of the 2011/2012 school year.
16. **Rhiannon Zimmerman**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; English Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective tentatively September 30, 2011 until the end of the second marking period of the 2011/2012 school year.

**C. Support Staff (Change in Status):**

1. **Michael Walter**, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Head Custodian, compensation will be set at \$20.10 per hour as per the Custodial Plan, effective July 1, 2011.

2. **Clyde Kring**, 5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center; Head Custodian, compensation will be set at \$20.10 per hour as per the Custodial Plan, effective July 1, 2011.
3. **Anthony Vassallo**, Brooke Elementary School; Head Custodian, compensation will be \$19.85 per hour as per the Custodial Plan, effective July 1, 2011.
4. **Maria Stieber**, District Office; Secretary, change in position from four (4) days a week to five (5) days a week for a total of 37.5 hours per week as per the Secretarial Plan, effective July 1, 2011.

**D. Extra-Curricular Contracts: Middle School (10/11 school year)**

1. **William Racich**, Track Intramural – Grade 8, \$402
2. **William Racich**, Wrestling Intramural – MS 2, \$678
3. **William Racich**, Fitness Training Session 1, \$402
4. **William Racich**, Fitness Training Session 2, \$402
5. **William Racich**, Fitness Training Session 3, \$402

**E. Extra-Curricular Contracts: Elementary School (10/11 school year)**

1. **Emily McGranahan**, Elementary Strings/Orchestra Director, \$1,873
2. **James S. Westlake**, Senior Elementary Band Director, \$2,140

**F. Professional Staff Substitutes:**

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. <b>Maria DiCesare</b> | Elementary Education |
| 2. <b>Robin Riegel</b>   | Elementary Education |

**NEW PROFESSIONAL STAFF SUBSTITUTES:**

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 3. <b>Margaret M. Paladino</b> | Elementary Education                    |
| 4. <b>Jessica Pfautz</b>       | Biology                                 |
| 5. <b>Emily Sassaman</b>       | Elementary Education /Mid-Level Science |

**G. Support Staff Substitutes:**

- |                             |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 1. <b>Christine Conant</b>  | Cafeteria |
| 2. <b>Janet Copenhaver</b>  | Support   |
| 3. <b>Angela DeRosato</b>   | Support   |
| 4. <b>Glenn Helmbold</b>    | Custodian |
| 5. <b>Colleen Krieble</b>   | Support   |
| 6. <b>Kathleen Lampmann</b> | Support   |
| 7. <b>Melanie Pierce</b>    | Support   |
| 8. <b>June Perry</b>        | Custodian |
| 9. <b>Kira Popky</b>        | Support   |
| 10. <b>Robin Riegel</b>     | Support   |
| 11. <b>Debra Swahl</b>      | Support   |
| 12. <b>Amanda Tamaki</b>    | Support   |
| 13. <b>Randy Tobin</b>      | Support   |
| 14. <b>Lori Tornetta</b>    | Support   |
| 15. <b>Lori Tusavitz</b>    | Support   |



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|---------------------------|-----------|
| 16. <b>Cynthia Watras</b> | Support   |
| 17. <b>Sally Whitton</b>  | Custodian |
| 18. <b>J.C. Callow</b>    | Support   |

**H. Personnel Information Items**

The individual(s) listed below have completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as temporary professional employees and are, therefore, approved for tenure status:

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. <b>Brienne Albright</b>      | Elementary Education        |
| 2. <b>Kathryn Barton</b>        | Family & Consumer Science   |
| 3. <b>Janine Briggs</b>         | Special Education           |
| 4. <b>Kristin D. Brockman</b>   | English                     |
| 5. <b>Jenna M. Campolongo</b>   | Earth Science               |
| 6. <b>Sandra Cerniglia</b>      | Program Specialist – ESL    |
| 7. <b>Crystal Coles</b>         | Special Education           |
| 8. <b>Sherry D. DeAngelo</b>    | Elementary Education        |
| 9. <b>Patricia Flynn</b>        | Secondary School Counselor  |
| 10. <b>Mallory R. Greene</b>    | Health & Physical Education |
| 11. <b>Michael J. Hoinowski</b> | Music                       |
| 12. <b>Brent Kissel</b>         | Art                         |
| 13. <b>Julie M. Korchowsky</b>  | Social Studies              |
| 14. <b>Rachel Lawrence</b>      | English                     |
| 15. <b>Yvonne Lockbaum</b>      | Special Education           |
| 16. <b>Parker J. Loomis</b>     | Social Studies              |
| 17. <b>Cristina A. McCoach</b>  | Biology                     |
| 18. <b>Emily McGranahan</b>     | Music                       |
| 19. <b>Jillian Mandelkern</b>   | English                     |
| 20. <b>Donald J. Miller</b>     | Elementary Education        |
| 21. <b>Kristy L. Murphy</b>     | English                     |
| 22. <b>Scott Orelli</b>         | Chemistry                   |
| 23. <b>Jacqueline S. Perry</b>  | Chemistry                   |
| 24. <b>Allison A. Ramil</b>     | Mathematics                 |
| 25. <b>Meganlyn Rendina</b>     | Elementary Education        |
| 26. <b>Jennifer A. Ricci</b>    | Elementary Education        |
| 27. <b>Donna M. Rowlands</b>    | Elementary Education        |
| 28. <b>Janell M. Shelly</b>     | Special Education           |
| 29. <b>Nicholas A. Tier</b>     | Social Studies              |
| 30. <b>Katie Uhas</b>           | English                     |
| 31. <b>Jaclyn M. Yura-Brown</b> | French                      |

- I. The Board approved employing personnel during the interval between the June Board meeting and the August Board meeting for the 2011-2012 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 2011-2012 General Fund Budget

**NEW PERSONNEL ITEM**

- J. The Board approved withdrawing the furloughs of and effectively retaining the following employees as of July 1, 2011:
  - 1. **Michael T. Heimbach**, Custodian, replacing William Franz who retired.  
Compensation will be set at \$18.85 per hour with benefits as per the Custodian Plan.
  - 2. **Arnold M. Koehler, III**, Custodian, replacing Daniel Curren who resigned.  
Compensation will be set at \$18.85 per hour with benefits as per the Custodian Plan.

**VI. FINANCE**

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-P and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 5-0.

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

- A. 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- ALTERATION & ADDITIONS**

El Associates	Professional Services (3 Inv.)	\$	1,559.52
Johnson Controls	Security Cameras/Digital Video Recorder System	\$	13,265.00
Limerick Township	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$	359.81
Tri-State Balancing Co.	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$	10,500.00
*E. R. Stuebner, Inc.	Applic. #19- General Contractor	\$	415,149.24
*Knight Athletics, Inc.	Supply/Install Drop Curtain Gym		<u>\$ 11,200.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$	452,033.57

2. **9<sup>th</sup> GRADE CENTER PARKING LOT**

Bursich Associates	Professional Services	\$	<u>455.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$	455.00

3. **ROYERSFORD ELEMENTARY- CHILLER PROJECT**

Colm Engineering	Professional Services	\$	2,500.00
Colonial Electric Supply	Misc. Supplies-Chiller (Credit)	\$	-365.01
Johnson Controls	Professional Services	\$	2,600.00
Kirk Grater Plumbing	Chiller Piping	\$	6,515.81
Reading Foundry	Misc. Supplies-Chiller Install.	\$	95.77
Specialty Products Co.	Misc. Supplies-Chiller Install. (2 Inv.)	\$	1,186.14
United Refrigeration Inc.	Misc. Supplies-Chiller Install. (6 Inv.)	\$	6,038.71
US Supply Co. Inc.	Misc. Supplies-Chiller Install. (3 Inv.)		<u>\$ 14.88</u>
	TOTAL	\$	18,586.30

- B. The Board approved next month's payroll, taxes, all benefits, transportation contracts, IU contracts, Vo-Tech payments, debt service payments, utility bills, maintenance agreements, copier leases, equipment maintenance, Federal grants, insurance, and discounted invoices.
- C. Checks:
1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

<u>May</u>	
Check No. 141875 – 141952	\$ 128,985.94
<u>June</u>	
Check No. 141953 – 142336	\$1,512,880.27
  
  2. Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting

Check No. 142458 – 142525	\$ 252,125.73
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  3. Board Checks held for approval

Check No. 142337 – 142457	\$ 143,115.17
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  4. Athletic Fund

<u>May</u>	
Check No. 303599 – 303680	\$ 16,973.63
- D. The Board approve paying outstanding obligations of the 2010/2011 fiscal year for which invoices have not yet been received or processed prior to the June Board meeting.
- E. 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.
- F. The Board approved awarding a contract based on quotes to IKON Office Solutions, Inc., King of Prussia, PA, for the lease of 18 photocopiers (replacements) throughout the buildings in the amount of \$8,020 per month for a 4 year lease including maintenance and supplies. The next lowest quote was from Fraser Advanced Information System at a cost of \$8,285.
- G. The Edwin A. Thomas Fund has earned interest of \$13.67. According to the stipulation, interest earned shall be allocated towards purchase of library books. Board approval was given to accept the donation.
- H. The Board approved the proposed assessment appeal settlement with Willany, LLC, 120 Penn Street, Spring City, PA. The proposed settlement sets the assessment at \$970,000 and splits the difference between Spring-Ford's appraisal number (\$1,030,440) and the taxpayer's appraisal number (\$941,800).

- I. The Board approved purchasing jackets for the 2011 Spring-Ford High School Athletic Teams/Individual PAC 10 Champions, as per Board Policy #123. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Student Activity Fund and shall not exceed seven thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$7,350.00).
  
- J. The Board approved the following **independent contracts**:
  1. **Great Valley Nature Center – Devault, PA.** Provide a total of four (4) assemblies during the 2011-2012 school year at Limerick Elementary entitled “Sensational Senses”, “Winter Wonders”, “Eggstra-ordinary Spring” and “Snakes Alive”. Funding will be paid by the Limerick Elementary Home and School League and shall not exceed five hundred sixty-two dollars (\$562.00) for all four assemblies.
  
  2. **PA Friends of Agriculture – Camp Hill, PA.** Provide five (5) days of lab classes for students at Limerick Elementary in the Mobile Agriculture Educational Science Lab from October 10 through October 14, 2011. Funding will be paid by the Limerick Elementary Home and School League and shall not exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00).
  
  3. **American Red Cross – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide initial training and recertification of special education instructional assistants in CPR and First Aid. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Medical Access Funds and shall not exceed eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00).
  
  4. **Camphill Special School – Glenmoore, PA.** Provide Extended School Year services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Twenty (20) days of educational services at a cost of one hundred ninety-six dollars and eleven cents (\$196.11) per day and twenty-eight (28) days of residential services at a cost of one hundred seventeen dollars and thirty-nine cents (\$117.39) per day will be provided. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed seven thousand two hundred nine dollars and twelve cents (\$7,209.12).
  
  5. **Ken-Crest Services – Plymouth Meeting, PA.** Provide a transition Extended School Year workshop experience for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for twenty-four (24) days at a rate of one hundred eight dollars (\$108.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed two thousand five hundred ninety-two dollars (\$2,592.00).
  
  6. **Devereaux Foundation – Villanova, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for thirty-nine (39) days at a rate of four hundred dollars (\$400.00) per day. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed fifteen thousand six hundred dollars (\$15,600.00).
  
  7. **Lapreziosa Occupational Therapist Services – Pottstown, PA.** Provide Occupational Therapy Services for the Extended School Year Program for special needs students as per their IEPs. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed twenty-one thousand two hundred eighty-nine dollars (\$21,289.00).

8. **Lapreziosa Occupational Therapist Services – Pottstown, PA.** Provide Occupational Therapy Services for special needs students during the 2011-2012 school year as per their IEPs. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed four hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$425,000.00).
9. **Delaware Valley Friends School – Paoli, PA.** Provide educational services during the 2011-2012 school year for three (3) high school special needs students as per their IEPs. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget for a cost of forty-six thousand eight hundred dollars (\$46,800.00) per student for a total not to exceed one hundred forty thousand four hundred dollars (\$140,400.00).
10. **Vanguard School – Paoli, PA.** Provide educational services during the 2011-2012 school year for four (4) special needs students at various grade levels as per their IEPs. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed forty-five thousand one hundred eighty-five dollars (\$45,185.00) per student for a total of one hundred eighty thousand seven hundred forty dollars (\$180,740.00).
11. **Dr. Frederick Fisher – Wynnewood, PA.** Provide psychiatric services, evaluations and re-evaluations for the 2011-2012 school year. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed fifteen thousand four dollars (\$15,004.00).
12. **Lakeside Educational Network – Fort Washington, PA.** Provide twelve (12) educational slots including transportation for one hundred eighty (180) days for special needs students requiring an alternative placement for the 2011-2012 school year. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00).
13. **Lakeside Educational Network – Ft. Washington, PA.** Provide two (2) full-time Mainstay Program Counselors to deliver on-campus problem/resolution services for the 2011-2012 school year. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Alternative Education Budget (\$72,390.00) and from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget (\$70,000.00) for a total not exceed one hundred forty-two thousand three hundred ninety dollars (\$142,390.00).
14. **Cynthia Mosier – Jeffersonville, PA.** Provide Physical Therapy services for the Extended School Year Program for special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for two hundred four (204) hours at a rate of sixty-one dollars (\$61.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed twenty-one thousand two hundred eighty-nine dollars (\$12,444.00).
15. **Vanguard – Paoli, PA.** Provide an Extended School Year Program to a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for twenty-nine (29) days. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education IDEA Funds and shall not exceed six thousand eight hundred seventy dollars (\$6,870.00).

**NEW INDEPENDENT CONTRACTS**

16. **Netchemia - Prairie Village, KS.** Provide online applicant tracking and hiring management services. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Human Resources Budget and shall not exceed three thousand two hundred dollars (\$3,200.00).
  17. **K12 Insight – Herndon, VA.** Provide a comprehensive data collection service that through the use of surveys will help the school district improve the engagement of its key stakeholders (parents, teachers, community members and students). Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Superintendent’s Budget and shall not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) for a one year trial period.
  18. **Amy Marks – Royersford, PA.** Provide Physical Therapy services for the 2011-2012 school year as per student IEPs. Services will be provided for thirty (30) hours per week for thirty-six (36) weeks at a rate of sixty-two dollars (\$62.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed sixty-six thousand nine hundred sixty dollars (\$66,960.00).
  19. **Cynthia Mosier – Jeffersonville, PA.** Provide Physical Therapy services for the 2011-2012 school year as per student IEPs. Services will be provided for thirty-two (32) hours per week for thirty-six (36) weeks at a rate of sixty-two dollars (\$62.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed seventy-one thousand four hundred twenty-four dollars (\$71,424.00).
  20. **Claire Choutka – Limerick, PA.** Provide Applied Behavior Analysis Observation and consultation in the school setting for two (2) special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for twenty-four (24) hours for one student and twelve (12) hours for the other student. A total of thirty-six (36) hours will be provided at a rate of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00).
  21. **Dr. Margaret Kay – Lancaster, PA.** Provide an independent educational evaluation including psychological testing, scoring, classroom observation and a written report for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00).
- K. The Board approved the following **Maintenance Service Agreements** for the 2011-2012 school year as follows:

Carter Brothers LLC	
Fire Alarm System Inspection	\$ 9,680.00
Berkshire Systems Group Inc.	
District-Wide Card Reader	\$ 7,140.00
Brocks Fire Protection (estimate)	
Portable Fire Ext. Inspection	\$ 4,500.00

Keeler Co. Inc.	
Water Treatment for HVAC Equipment	\$ 15,960.00
Kitchen Hood Fire Suppression	\$ 2,000.00
Anchor Fire	
Sprinkler System Inspection	\$ 5,850.00
Johnson Controls (estimate)	
HVAC & ATC Controls	\$ 121,000.00
Tri-State McQuay	
Water Chiller Tower – Brooke	\$ 2,232.00
Secure-A-Home	
Security Monitoring	\$ 4,270.00
Kensol Airways	
Kitchen&Dishwshr Exhaust Cleaning	\$ 3,770.00
Barber’s Septic Service	
Kitchen Grease Traps	\$ 1,585.00
Fleming Pest Control	\$ 5,544.00
R.J. McCarville Associates	
Bleacher Inspections	\$ 2,650.00
R.J. McCarville Associates	
Folding Door - Partition Inspection	\$ 4,740.00
Amtec Elevator Services	
Elevators	\$ 11,520.00
Daktronics	
Scoreboards	\$ 1,245.00
Park Constructors Corporation	
Playground Inspection	\$ 4,750.00

**NEW FINANCE**

L. The Board approved no increase in salary or hourly rate for administrators and support staff for the 2011-2012 school year.

M. The following Treasurers’ Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market – May 2011
- PSDLAF – May 2011
- PSDMAX – May 2011

- Checking Account – May 2011
- PLGIT Account – May 2011
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule - May 2011
- Payroll Account – May 2011
- Tax Account – May 2011

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – May 2011
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity – May 2011
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity – May 2011
- High School Activity – May 2011
- Athletic Account – May 2011

Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – May 2011

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – May 2011
- Debt Service Fund – May 2011
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – May 2011

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – May 2011
- Cafeteria Checking Account – May 2011
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – May 2011
- Investment Account – May 2011

N. The Board approved the **Cafeteria Listing** of Bills:

**May**

Check No. 10086 - 10188	\$ 266,055.24
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O. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits**:

Permits No. 3587 – 3618

P. The Board approved the following **additions/deletions** from the per capita tax for the 2010-2011 school year:

Limerick Township Additions	No. 30 - 35
Limerick Township Deletions	No. 871 – 887
Spring City Borough Additions	No. 37 – 217
Spring City Borough Deletions	No. 175 - 213

**VII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 5-0.

A. The Board approved the acceptance of the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant in the amount of \$60,000.00. This grant will continue to support our district-wide Healthy Choices Program.



- B. The Board approved a membership with the Montgomery County Education and Workforce Partnership which will provide Spring-Ford School District the opportunity to participate in programs, internships, job shadowing and an “Educator in the Workforce Program”. The membership fee for the 2011-2012 school year is \$1,000 and funding will come from the 2011-2012 High School Budget.

**VIII. PROPERTY**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve items A-E and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 5-0.

- A. The Board approved a **DEDUCT** Change Order G-1 (High School Addition Project – E.R. Steubner, Inc.) in the amount of **(\$1,850.76)** for reimbursement of the two year service contract for the elevator.
- B. The Board approved awarding a contract for paving to Dan Malloy Paving, Inc. at a cost of \$57.00 per square yard, rejecting all other bids.
- C. The Board approved awarding a contract for sidewalks to Gary Britcher at a cost of \$8.85 per square foot, rejecting all other bids.
- D. The Board approved awarding a contract for curbing to Drumheller Construction at a cost of \$22.00 per linear feet, rejecting all other bids.
- E. The Board approved having Siemens Building Technology install Phase II of the Automatic Temperature Control (ATC) Building Automated System (BAS) at Oaks Elementary School in the 1997 classroom wing addition. This system will allow for better temperature control and energy savings. Funding will come from the High School Construction Funds and shall not exceed ninety-seven thousand eight hundred dollars (\$97,800.00).

**IX. PSBA REPORT/MCIU REPORT**

**Tom DiBello**

Mr. DiBello reported that the MCIU Legislative Board met and the meeting focused on the IU’s operational business. Mr. DiBello reported that the staff at the IU has agreed to take a pay freeze for the upcoming year for which they should be commended. Mr. DiBello commented that a lot of the focus of the meeting was on the bills being discussed in the Harrisburg Senate and House of Representatives. Two of the big bills are the school voucher bill and the bill on furloughs. There was a lot of momentum for the school voucher bill earlier but there seems to be some division between the house and the senate on this recently so it is not know where this may go. PSBA has reported that if the bill was passed that it could be beneficial but if you really take a look at the guts of the bill and what would happen in the third and fourth year it does not really benefit anyone other than a few of the lower performing school districts and everyone else will pay drastically over time to support the vouchers. The other bill that had some momentum was regarding allowing districts to furlough based on economic conditions but over the last two months a lot of amendments have been added to the bill which when you actually look at it the bill is similar to the one in place currently today. Mr. DiBello stated that third piece he would like to talk about is exceptions which districts were allowed to file each budget season with the state and a push by the governor’s office is to do completely away with these exceptions. Mr. DiBello stated that we are expected to see the finalized budget from the state and there could be two changes that would be of a benefit to Spring-Ford, one is the social security change which in the proposed budget would have seen Spring-Ford losing \$700,000 and in the finalized

budget this was supposed to be reverted back so we should see that \$700,000 come back to the district. The other change would be the success of the legislators to have \$45 million put back into education which will benefit Spring-Ford but until it happens Mr. DiBello did not feel comfortable reporting on how much it could potentially benefit Spring-Ford.

**X. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-D and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 5-0.

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

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

**HIGH SCHOOL**

- A. **Kristin Rouyer**, AP French Teacher, to attend “*AP French Language – College Board Summer Institute*” at Penn State University – Abington Campus from July 25 through July 28, 2011. The total cost for this conference is \$840.00 for registration from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- B. **Rebecca Barnett**, AP English Teacher, to attend “*AP English Language – Summer Institute*” at Penn State University – Abington Campus from July 25 through July 28, 2011. The total cost for this conference is \$840.00 for registration from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

**DISTRICT-WIDE**

- C. **Johnna Weller**, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, **Dr. Melissa Patschke**, Principal, and **Mark Matthews**, Emotional Support Teacher, to attend “*Doing What Works (DWW) Implementation Meeting*” at the WestEd Headquarters in San Francisco, California from September 14 through September 16, 2011. There is no cost to the district for this conference other than \$450.00 for a substitute for 3 days for Mr. Matthews.

**NEW CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP**

- D. **Johnna Weller**, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, **Dr. Edward Mackel**, **Ed Smith**, Principals, and **Mary Palladino**, Teacher, to attend “*21<sup>st</sup> Century School Improvement & AYP*” at the Penn Stater Conference Center from July 11 through July 14, 2011. There is no cost to the district for this conference.

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-B and D and Mr. DiBello seconded it.

Mr. Pettit pointed out that on Item B for the Cheerleading Program it should be noted that it is at no cost to the district. Mr. Pettit commented on Item D and the donation of playground equipment saying the Home and School Organizations and their assistance with these types of things should be noted as well.

Mr. Ciresi stated that we have often said how important our PTO's and Home and School Organizations are and we try to thank them as much as we can especially in this economy. Mr. Ciresi thanked the Evans Elementary Home and School for their generous donation.

The motion passed 5-0.

A. The following policy was approved:

1. Policy #122.1 – PROGRAMS: Student Activity Fee

B. The Board approved the High School Cheerleading Squad and Coaches to attend the Pine Forest Cheerleading Camp in Olyphant, Pennsylvania from Thursday, August 18 through Sunday, August 21, 2011. The total cost per student-athlete will be \$240.00. The Cheerleading Squad and Staff will conduct fundraising events to help defray the costs. Student-athletes will not miss any school days since this camp takes place prior to the first day of classes. **There will be no cost to the district.**

C. The following policies are submitted as a first reading:

1. Policy #109 – PROGRAMS: Resource Materials
2. Policy #111 – PROGRAMS: Lesson Plans
3. Policy #112 – PROGRAMS: Guidance Counseling
4. Policy #707.1 – PROPERTY: Community Use of School Grounds and Playgrounds

#### **NEW OTHER BUSINESS**

D. The Board acknowledged and accepted the donation of playground equipment to Evans Elementary School. The total amount of this donation will be \$12,963.10 and will be funded by the Evans Elementary Home & School Association. This amount includes the playground equipment, shipping, installation, and the standard 20% district fee, as per Board Policy #702, for the maintenance of new equipment.

#### **XII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

No report.

#### **XIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

Mr. Dressler asked about the property swap with Upper Providence Township and Mr. Davis replied he would like to have some direction on this and suggested that the Property Committee discuss this at their next meeting.

Dawn Heine, Limerick Township, commented that the Board spent a lot of time talking about the Western Center and she would like to say that the brochures for enrollment did not come out for delivery in the households until one week after students had to make their course selections. Mrs. Heine stated that she has a 10<sup>th</sup> grader and to have that brochure arrive a week after deadline it becomes a moot point. Mrs. Heine reported that there is currently a camp for participants from 5-8 grade and since the Board had talked a lot about tracking of information and she would like to know if the participants of the camp will be tracked for reenrollment into a program next year or followed to see if they will ultimately be participants in the program. Mr. Ciresi thanked her for her idea saying he thought it would be a good idea to do something like this.

Jill Driebelbis, Spring City, commented that she called up the Western Center regarding the camp because she thought it would be something her grandchildren would be interested in. Ms. Driebelbis stated that her oldest is interested in auto mechanics but when she contacted the Western Center she was informed that the auto mechanics camp program was cancelled due to the lack of enrollment. Ms. Driebelbis reported that the only camp program that is totally booked is the cooking program.

Mr. Ciresi commented that he did receive a brochure but it was probably a little bit late in the game as both speakers had indicated. Mr. Ciresi thanked both parents for their comments saying that if you do not have children in the programs or at those grade levels you do not know when course selection is so it is good to have parents inform the Board of these situations.

Kathleen Bryant, Upper Providence Township, stated that with regards to the discussion on the vocational school, she has heard a lot of lamenting the past tonight but it is built so let's try to be a little more proactive and positive about the future. Ms. Bryant questioned whether there was anything to preclude Spring-Ford or the other members of the Joint Operating Committee from utilizing the school if not during the school day then afterwards for private tuition paying students. Ms. Bryant stated with current economy of the district she is certain there are people that would be looking to develop new schools and they could receive superb training in a state of the art facility. Ms. Bryant stated that we need to be a little more positive rather than say boo-hoo what happened in the past.

Mr. Ciresi replied that this was already discussed and he was one of the only Board Members who pushed and questioned why we were not doing these types of programs. Mr. Ciresi added that they use to have a pretty successful program in the past when Montco was out there but we raised our rates and Montco was not willing to pay it. Mr. Ciresi stated that the discussion went back and forth between the administration and the Board and it was said that there needed to be a line in the budget for after school programs. Mr. Ciresi stated that it is a line in the budget for he believes \$20,000 for next year and this is something that really needs to be pushed and it cannot be just the three Spring-Ford Members saying it as it must be all nine JOC Members.

Ms. Bryant asked if there was anything legally that would preclude the use of the public school facility as a private tuition location. Mr. Davis replied no as it was mentioned before many years ago there was a thriving night school so this can be done. Ms. Bryant said she remembers this as she has been attending meetings since the 80's. Ms. Bryant stated that she remembers that the facilities use to be horrible but yet they were chock full of people. Ms. Bryant stated that rather than look back let's be positive and proactive and let's have The Mercury, The Patch and other publications get behind this and advertise the school for use of training of existing people looking for new skills and new careers so that the brand new, beautiful facilities are used rather than cry about why they were built.

Mr. Ciresi thanked Mr. Cooper for his presentation. Mr. Ciresi reported that the PSBA Bulletin that the Board receives talks a lot about budgets, cuts and what is happening in the economy. Mr. Ciresi stated that while we have been through two horrible budget years, he would like to put a challenge out to administration, our new superintendent and employees to see if we can be creative and find ways to cut our budget by 10% over the next year without a reduction in programming or staff. Mr. Ciresi asked everyone to see how creative they can be as a community and school district. Mr. Ciresi said he would like to see a year from now how close we can get to the 10% cut while keeping everything intact and maybe

even adding things. Mr. Ciresi stated that when you look at what some of the districts around the country are doing and how creative they have gotten in every aspect of every bit of education there is an inspiration that goes on there. Mr. Ciresi commented that there are certain blockades that he knows we will come across but the Board has spent countless hours looking at different opportunities and maybe there is a phone line or an email site that can be set up for people to be creative and submit ideas. Mr. Ciresi stated that it is time we take the challenge to improve education and cut expenses.

Mr. DiBello clarified that when he was talking about his concerns regarding the Western Center he was not boo-hoing or crying about the past but what he is saying is that we have spent a lot of money and he would like to know what we are going to do or what can we do to increase the enrollment at the school. Mr. DiBello stated that he brought it up a year ago and he has not seen much advancement as of yet. Mr. DiBello commented that he is hoping that we can see some advancement this year because as he sits here and hears residents say that the brochures went out a week after course selections were due well that is evidence of a definite problem. The brochure is marketing material for the Western Center and the kids and parents did not even have this material in their hands. Mr. DiBello reiterated that he is not crying about the past but what he is saying is that we have spent a lot of money in the past and we need to make sure that we harness that investment and get as many kids educated and reduce the cost to the taxpayer as much as possible.

Dr. Goodin commented that from what he is hearing two goals have already been set for him as he meets with the Board to take a look at what we will be doing this year and the 10% budget cut is one of the goals. Dr. Goodin asked Mr. Anspach if 10% was something that could be done. Mr. Anspach replied we will do our best and he agrees that we cannot operate status quo and we have made some drastic changes the last couple of years and we will continue to look at the bottom line. Dr. Goodin stated that we will take it as a challenge from the Board, do our best and see what we can do. Dr. Goodin expressed his pleasure at being with Spring-Ford and stated that he is looking forward to getting on board and working with the School Board and the public.

#### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. DiBello made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Fern  
Board Secretary