

On August 27, 2012 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:33 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: Dawn R. Heine
Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi and Mark P. Dehnert
Presiding Officer: Thomas J. DiBello
Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin
Business Manager: Timothy Anspach
Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.
Student Rep.: Elizabeth Brady

The following Board Members were absent: David R. Shafer, Clara M. Gudolonis, and Julie A. Mullin
Board President, Mr. DiBello, opened the meeting with the call to order and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no questions or comments from the public.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Goodin stated that he would like to introduce the new administrators recently hired into the district. He began by introducing Rob Moyer who was hired as the new House Principal in the 5,6,7,8 grade rotation. Mr. Moyer stated that his first day in the district was very nice and a bit of a different pace for him. Mr. Moyer commented that he found that the students were wonderful, the staff was very supportive and seeing such dedicated staff members was a real delight and as a taxpayer it was really a delight. Dr. Goodin pointed out that Mr. Moyer lives in the district and Mr. Moyer confirmed this. Dr. Goodin asked what district Mr. Moyer worked in prior to Spring-Ford and he responded Perkiomen Valley. Mr. Moyer will begin his House Principal rotation with the 6th grade class.

Dr. Goodin next introduced Elaine Ruppert who was hired as the new House Principal at the High School in the 10th Grade House. Mrs. Ruppert talked about how she has been teaching at the high school for the past 14 years and this is her first day as administrator and as been very exciting. She stated that the day flew by very quickly and her 10th grade class seems to be a phenomenal group. Mrs. Ruppert added that she is very, very excited to be in this position at the high school. Dr. Goodin said the district is certainly glad to have her onboard.

Dr. Goodin next introduced Heather Nuneviller, the new 5/6/7 Center Grade Building Principal. Ms. Nuneviller reported that they had a very exciting day today at the 5/6/7 Grade Center. Ms. Nuneviller stated that first they got the 7th grade in and got them rolling and then moved over to the 5/6 grade side and got all those students in and started with their day. Ms. Nuneviller commented that they had a pretty flawless day even with all the changes going on throughout the building. She showed a slide that she and Mr. Moyer put together showing a diagram of the new administrative system incorporating the House System. Ms. Nuneviller reported that the students are very excited about the new system and the Administrative Team met with the students and explained the House System to them. Mr. DiBello asked if there was a plan in place with the Back to School nights to do any type of assembly for the parents. Ms. Nuneviller replied that they have three separate back to school nights planned; September 10th for the 5th Grade House, September 11th for the 6th Grade House and September 13th for the 7th Grade House. She stated that this year is going to be a year where they look at what they have done in past practice in order to see where they can start to merge some things. Ms. Nuneviller reported that they have already started to merge things and gave the example of attendance saying they have one point person for the 5/6/7 grade attendance and that communication is a little more streamlined for the teachers. Mr. DiBello asked if anything special was being done on the Back to School nights or if they were being run as in year's past and Ms. Nuneviller replied that as of right now they are running it as in year's past with the addition of last year they held a meet the principal night so that parents were able to come in and talk with her. She reported that they also did a 7th Grade Orientation where approximately 200-250 parents showed up. Ms. Nuneviller also reported that they had their building open to parents and students all day on Friday until 6:00PM and the administrative staff was present in the hallways for parents to be able to talk with them in an informal setting and answer questions they may have about the House System. Ms. Nuneviller reported that the response from parents has been very positive regarding the transition for their students where they will have a K-4 principal, one house principal for grades 5-8, and then one at the high school for grades 9-12.

Mr. DiBello relayed that the parents he has spoken with who are familiar with the House System at the high school are excited about the shift we are making to have the House System in grades 5-8 and those that are not familiar with the system are equally as excited to see this in place.

- A. Introduction of the **Rob Moyer**, 5/6/7 Grade Center House Principal, **Heather Nuneviller**, 5/6/7 Grade Center Building Principal, and **Elaine Ruppert**, 9-12 Grade House Principal.

Dr. Patschke stated that in June the Upper Providence School Community was notified that they would be participating in a program that would bring an international principal to them. That principal, Susana Carrizo, will travel from Argentina to visit Upper Providence in October. Dr. Patschke in return will travel to Argentina and visit Principal Carrizo's school during the summer of 2013. Dr. Patschke reported that she and Principal Carrizo will be present at the October 15th Board Meeting to do a presentation about education and culture in Argentina as well as the progress in connecting the two school communities. Dr. Patschke commented that international connections allow our students to grow more accepting of others and become comfortable with diversity. Dr. Patschke shared a statement that she believes summarizes the vision of Upper Providence's global connections. She stated, "Our goal is to reach far beyond our classroom walls to unite the world, one child at a time, in order to promote an understanding and acceptance of others, for who they are, and to facilitate mentoring opportunities for children who will be tomorrow's leaders of your world". Dr. Goodin commented that the work that Dr. Patschke is doing at UPE is certainly part of the overall vision of the Spring-Ford

Area School Board to create global partnerships and connections. Dr. Goodin stated that Spring-Ford is doing this as Dr. Patschke just reported in our partnership with the administrator in Argentina but also with the work of the students in the Pen Pal Program and our work with Ireland. Dr. Goodin stated that the district is looking to extend on these programs and make global connections for Spring-Ford not just a vision but a reality. Dr. Goodin expressed his thanks to Dr. Patschke for her work on this partnership.

Mr. DiBello commented that the work that Dr. Patschke is doing is great as it is just demonstrating how we have administrators taking the lead in working in a global atmosphere. Mr. DiBello stated that from a School Board's perspective we are also trying to work in a global atmosphere by putting programs in place and plans that we want to move forward with in opening up our walls to the global society. Mr. DiBello expressed that he thinks it is great that Dr. Patschke has taken the leadership in working with Argentina and thanked her for all of her hard work.

Mr. Ciresi stated that Evans had teamed up obviously with the relationship we had in Ireland, Upper Providence has had a couple of relationships and he questioned the other elementary schools and what they are doing. Dr. Goodin replied that he is not aware of any of the other elementary schools doing anything quite like this. Dr. Goodin reported that Oaks Elementary while it may not have a relationship with students in other countries they actually have those students from the other countries through the English as a Second Language Program.

Mr. DiBello commented that Mr. Ciresi asks a great question and he thinks that as we continue forward with our strategy he knows that in the future Dr. Floyd will be talking with us about the international global studies unit that the Curriculum Committee has been talking about and already have a high level strategy that they are working through and want to present to the Board. Mr. DiBello stated that this is just one more piece that may be a 3-5 year vision but it is just one more piece that we can continue to explore. Mr. DiBello added that other countries are already doing this and spreading their wings to look at things from a global market perspective and they are very interested in the United States as we need to be interested in other countries as well. Mr. DiBello expressed his appreciation for the work that everyone is doing and stated that he looks forward to the Curriculum presentation in a couple of months.

- B. **Dr. Melissa Patschke**, Upper Providence Elementary Principal, to give an overview of Upper Providence's Partnership with Argentina.

Dr. Goodin commented that Dr. Floyd had updated the Board last week on the Spring City Hybrid Learning Center and concerning this initiative we were able to get communication out last week to the parents of Spring City students regarding two open houses that are planned. Dr. Goodin stated that he appreciates Dr. Floyd and Mr. Reynolds spearheading the Hybrid Initiative along with Mr. Edmunds and the faculty over at Spring City Elementary. Dr. Goodin commented that he understands that the staff at Spring City Elementary is extremely excited about what is taking place.

Dr. Floyd gave an overview of the Common Core State Standards and the changes that will be taking place in the district specifically in the areas of English, Language Arts and Mathematics. Dr. Floyd spoke about the two types of Common Core Standards; National Common Core Standards and State Common Core Standards. Dr. Floyd explained that the major focal points of the Common Core Standards are increased rigor and college and career readiness. He pointed out that in all Common Core Standards documents there are

three different types of standards: content standards, process standards and performance standards. Dr. Floyd explained the Common Core Standards for English/Language Arts and Math. Dr. Goodin asked if the Common Core Standards for Math if there would be a strong correlation between these standards and our current Everyday Math curriculum. Dr. Floyd replied that there was a strong connection to our Everyday Math Program. Dr. Floyd reported that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has agreed that the Common Core Standards would represent at least 85% of the academic standards in reading and math. He explained how the PA Standards align with the Common Core Standards.

Mr. Dehnert asked if PA Standards were inferior or was the bar set too high on the National Standards and Dr. Floyd replied that he would not say that PA Standards were inferior but more that they were looking to increase the rigor.

Dr. Floyd explained that the next steps were for the district to first begin the transition between the current PA State Standards & Common Core State Standards without losing sight of the PA State Standards. Curriculum Revisions are to be completed, according to state law, by July 1, 2013. We will be assessed on the current PA State Standards through 2013 with field testing of new questions being embedded in the 2013 assessment. Grades 3-5 will take the new PA Common Core State Standards assessment in the Spring of 2014 and grades 6-8 will take them in the Spring of 2015. The secondary levels will take the new Keystone Exams in Algebra 1, Biology and Literature this year. Additional steps will include incorporating more Webb's Depth of Knowledge Level 2, 3 and 4 into classrooms which will support the preparation for the Keystone Exams and leaning to use the resources available on the PA Standards Aligned System as that is and will continue to be the vehicle for understanding the Common Core State Standards.

Mr. Dehnert questioned if the National Standards are higher than Pennsylvania's and we taught to those wouldn't our students taking the PSSA's be advanced and do better. Dr. Floyd replied that he would hate to speculate that because there are still things in the current PA Standards that we still need to make sure we are covering. Mr. Dehnert stated that in layman's terms some of the PSSA questions and the Standards for PA are things that the National Standards do not feel are important so our students would be learning things that they really do not need to know according to the National Standards. Dr. Floyd confirmed that Mr. Dehnert was correct and there was some availability for each state and as a Commonwealth we are given 15% latitude for local control.

Mr. DiBello commented that once we get all of this rolled out we will then get the next program that will come along and change it all. Dr. Floyd said it is hard to guess into the future but he will say that in talking with the administrative team and the teachers they know that we have a big task ahead of us and everyone is committed to making it successful. Mr. DiBello stated that he is fully confident that our administration and teachers will quickly move into this to take it where it needs to go to but in the past five or six years there have been a lot of new standards, new programs and changes. Dr. Floyd replied that it definitely makes it unique in trying to keep up with it all. Dr. Floyd reported that he will put this information on the district website in order to keep parents informed.

Mrs. Heine stated that Dr. Floyd mentioned that the standards started at Pre-Kindergarten and she wondered what impact this would have on us and if -all of this will force us to go back and test again for placement in kindergarten. Dr. Floyd replied that what many people are not aware of is that the state has had standards for birth through kindergarten for the last five

years. Dr. Floyd reported that they had three sets of ranges that were based off of the old standards and they were for infancy through age 3, age 3 through age 5 and then beyond age 5. Dr. Floyd commented that the state already had these so this is really just solidifying their importance again for the preschool systems.

Mr. Dressler commented that on a different curriculum and instruction topic, he received an email from Ron Faust of Ursinus College that the Science in Motion Program has funding from the state to continue the program through the end of the calendar year. Mr. Dressler encouraged Dr. Floyd to encourage the faculty to incorporate the services of the program perhaps more than we have it he past. Dr. Floyd stated that he would do that and he thanked Mr. Dressler for bringing it to his attention.

C. **Dr. Keith Floyd**, Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction, to present on Common Core Standards.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

- A. The Board approved the revised May 29, 2012 Board Meeting minutes.
- B. The Board approved the June 18, 2012 Work Session minutes.
- C. The Board approved the June 25, 2012 Board Meeting minutes.

IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Rep. Report Elizabeth Brady

Elizabeth had a video presentation playing, while she gave her report that showed pictures of the Senior Welcome Back Breakfast that took place this morning and she reported was a lot of fun. Elizabeth commented that today was the first day of the 2012-2013 school year as school resumed for all students today. She noted that there are a few changes going on in the school district. Elizabeth announced that since the new house system has been put into action for the middle school there have been some staffing changes as Mrs. Ruppert is now the Class of 2015 House Principal. Mrs. Ruppert was formerly the AP Biology and Anatomy teacher. Also, Dr. Weidenbaugh is now the principal over at the 9th Grade Center and Mr. Nugent no longer has to travel across the street. Elizabeth reported that the annual senior welcome back breakfast was held this morning at 6:30 AM and had to be relocated from the parking lot to the gymnasium due to the rain. Elizabeth reminded all seniors to make sure that if they have not done so already to please turn in their transcript forms. Elizabeth next reminded the high school students and their parents to please have the first day forms turned in by homeroom this Wednesday. Elizabeth concluded by saying that this has been the start of what she expects to be a great year, her senior year.

MCIU Tom DiBello

Mr. DiBello reported that he unfortunately was not able to make the MCIU meeting as he was out of town for business but there was a big vote that took place to approve the purchase of a new building for the MCIU. Mr. DiBello stated that he has not yet heard the outcome of the vote but he is assuming it was approved because through all of the negotiations it had gotten to the point where it was feasible for the MCIU to move forward with purchasing the building. Mr. DiBello added that the building used to be the Citizen's Bank building in Norristown by the train station. He stated that the MCIU is very excited about moving their operations there which will be a 12-15 month plan. Mr. DiBello stated that he would keep everyone informed of the progress on this.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David Goodin

Dr. Goodin reported that today was the first day of school with the students back and he is pleased to announce that there were no extra children left over at the end of the day which makes it a very successful day. Dr. Goodin stated that it was a good first day and he and Mr. Roche were able to get out into all of the buildings today to visit and observe how things were going. Dr. Goodin thanked Dr. Floyd for working with the 16 new teachers coming into the district through the Induction Program. Dr. Goodin stated that the Induction Program has taken on a whole new level of professionalism that he has not seen in the previous year and he attributed that to Dr. Floyd and his department. Dr. Goodin stated that he knows the new teachers coming into the district are going to hit the ground running because of those efforts. Dr. Goodin thanked all of the staff who made convocation successful by working diligently and by putting together a program which included him wearing a dress. Dr. Goodin reported that the theme for this year is "The Power of One" and the vision of the district this year and going forward will be that "Spring-Ford will be the educational provider that parents will choose". Dr. Goodin added that we are living in a time where there are educational choices and in order to be competitive we need to be the school district that parents will indeed choose as their educational provider. Dr. Goodin stated that we are going to do this by being educationally relevant, focused on achievement, and have a priority on people. Dr. Goodin thanked everyone on the Opening Day Committee for helping to articulate the theme this year and he also thanked his Cabinet for helping him articulate the vision for going forward and using this as a framework for every other program that we pursue and making sure that it is pointing us in the direction of being competitive. Dr. Goodin stated that once the walls are pulled down and competition comes into education we want to be in a position where we can be competitive and be a district that parents would indeed choose. Dr. Goodin reported that Mr. Roche was also part of the Opening Day Convocation and sported a mohawk. Dr. Goodin shared that today Trevor Packer, who is in charge of the AP testing at the College Board, sent out a Tweet today indicating that, out of 200,000 students who took the AP Psychology exam, only one student received a perfect score of 150 and that student was from Spring-Ford. Dr. Goodin stated that we do not yet know who the student is but we will certainly want to congratulate them once we know their identity. Dr. Goodin stated that the district is very proud of this student.

Mr. DiBello added that hopefully we will be able to identify the student and recognize them as this goes back to the theme of educational excellence.

Mrs. Heine reported that the sign at the Western Center is officially up but unfortunately there are still sandwich boards with information about what is going on in the school. Mrs. Heine stated that they will work on getting notifications put on the sign next.

Dr. Goodin reported that he was out at the Western Center today on his rounds checking on how the first day of classes went and he saw the sign firsthand.

Mr. DiBello commented that speaking about signs there is a new High School sign as well which was paid for by using funds given to the district by LifeTouch. Mr. DiBello said he believes it is going to be a huge benefit to the district as a means of knowledge sharing and a way to report on upcoming events.

V. PERSONNEL

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-O and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

A. **RESIGNATIONS:**

1. **Megan Bieleski**, 9th Grade Center; Mathematics Teacher and SADD Club Advisor, at the High School, effective July 6, 2012.
2. **Robert C. Bortz, Jr.**, District; Maintenance Employee, for the purpose of retirement, effective September 28, 2012.
3. **Doug Burns**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Custodian, for the purpose of retirement, effective September 29, 2012.
4. **Deborah L. Cavett**, 9th Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, effective August 21, 2012.
5. **Maggie Kramer**, High School; Assistant Field Hockey Coach, effective July 12, 2012.
6. **Heather Logic**, Royersford Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, effective July 10, 2012.
7. **Kathleen M. Maier**, 5/6th Grade Center; Food Service, for the purpose of retirement, effective October 31, 2012.
8. **Allison Ramil**, High School; Assistant Volleyball Coach, effective August 10, 2012.
9. **Meganlyn Rendina**, 5/6th Grade Center; Elementary Teacher, effective June 27, 2012.
10. **Elaine Ruppert**, High School; Science Department Chairperson, Academic Decathlon Coach and Asst. Girls' Lacrosse Coach, effective August 6, 2012.
11. **Alan Stokes**, 8th Grade Center; 12-month Field Technician, effective July 31, 2012.
12. **Paula Wagner**; 5/6th Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, effective July 16, 2012.
13. **Connie Willauer**, 5/6th Grade Center; Elementary Teacher, for the purpose of retirement, effective July 9, 2012.

NEW RESIGNATIONS:

14. **Tanya Chambers**, High School; Class Advisor 2015, effective August 23, 2012.
15. **Aimee Oblak**, High School; Musical Director, effective August 21, 2012.
16. **Darryl Perecko**, High School; Class Advisor 2015, effective August 23, 2012.

B. **LEAVES OF ABSENCE:**

1. **Catherine C. Bala**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, per Board Policy, effective tentatively October 29, 2012 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.

2. **Elizabeth Fulton**, 7th Grade Center; Secretary, per Board Policy, effective July 13, 2012 for up to a maximum of twelve weeks (12) weeks.
3. **James Holland**, District; Custodian, per Board Policy, effective July 19, 2012 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
4. **Tamura F. Rivera**, 5/6th Grade Center; Elementary Teacher, per Board Policy, effective tentatively November 19, 2012 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
5. **Mary Timbario**, 9th Grade Center; Part-time Cafeteria, for an unpaid leave of absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective August 27, 2012 for a period not to exceed 30 calendar days as per the Cafeteria Plan.

NEW LEAVES OF ABSENCE

6. **Amy Culp**, 9th Grade Center; Art Teacher, per Board Policy, effective August 21, 2012 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
 7. **Mary Jane Yost**, Brooke Elementary School; Special Education Teacher, per Board Policy, effective August 21, 2012 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
- C. The Board approved **Robin C. Moyer, Jr.**, as the Assistant Principal, 220 days at the 5/6/7th Grade Center. Compensation will be set at \$91,000 annually, prorated with benefits as per the Act 93 plan, effective August 21, 2012.
- D. **Professional Employees**: with benefits as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 21, 2012
1. **Nicole Carfagno**, 5/6/7th Grade Center; Learning Support Teacher, replacing Christine Berkheiser who transferred to another position. Compensation will be set at BS18 Step 6, \$49,300, prorated, effective August 22, 2012.
 2. **Tiffany Sallemi**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, replacing Marilyn Herczeg who retired. Compensation will be set at M Step 4, \$48,100.
 3. **Cynthia Heffernan**, Royersford Elementary School; Music Teacher, replacing Mary Mundy who resigned. Compensation will be at M30 Step 4, \$57,000.
 4. **Ernest Woolf**, 5/6/7th Grade Center; Special Education Teacher, replacing Daniel Butterweck who transferred to another position. Compensation will be set at B Step 4, \$46,800.

NEW PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES

5. **Jason Miller**, 9th Grade Center; Autistic Support Teacher replacing Ron Logan who resigned. Compensation will be set at M30 Step 10, \$71,800, prorated, effective date to be determined.
6. **Erin McAnallen**, High School; Science Teacher replacing Elaine Ruppert who transferred to another position. Compensation will be set at M Step 5, \$49,300, prorated, effective date to be determined.

E. Temporary Professional Employees: with benefits as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 21, 2012.

1. **Alexandra Collins**, 9th Grade Center; Mathematics Teacher, replacing Megan Bieleski who resigned. Compensation will be set at B Step 1, \$43,200.
2. **April Collins**, 7th Grade Center; Learning Support Teacher, replacing Amber Traupman who resigned. Compensation will be set at B Step 2, \$44,400.
3. **AnnMarie Cupo**, Royersford Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, replacing Heather Logic who resigned. Compensation will be set at B Step 3, \$45,600.
4. **Seth Jones**, High School; Music Teacher/Band Director, replacing John Eckstine who retired. Compensation will be set at M Step 8, \$55,800.
5. **Edith Quinby**, High School; Mathematics Teacher, who resigned. Compensation will be set at B Step 3, \$45,600.

New Temporary Professional Employee:

6. **Robin Riegel**, Intermediate/Middle School; Elementary Teacher, replacing Alison Hughes who transferred to another position. Compensation will be set at B Step 1, \$43,200, prorated, effective August 27, 2012.

F. Long Term Substitute Employees:

1. **Ashlee Adams**, 5/6th Grade Center; Autistic Support Teacher, replacing Shonna Schulz who will be on a Leave of Absence. Compensation will be set at B Step 1, \$43,200, with benefits, effective August 21, 2012 for the 2012/2013 school year.
2. **Megan Bittle**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, replacing Jennifer Basom who will be on a Leave of Absence. Compensation will be at set B Step 1, \$43,200, with benefits, effective August 21, 2012 for the 1st semester of the 2012/2013 school year.
3. **Lucinda King**, High School; Special Education Teacher, replacing Amanda Leslie who will be on a Leave of Absence. Compensation will be set at B18, Step 1, \$43,500, with benefits, effective tentatively September 4, 2012 for the 2012/2013 school year.

LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE EMPLOYEES

4. **Gail Carr**, Brooke Elementary School; Elementary Teacher replacing Nina Wickersham who will be on a Leave of Absence. Compensation will be set at M Step 1, \$44,500, prorated, with benefits, effective tentatively August 30, 2012 through the end of the second marking period.
5. **Emily Sassaman**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher replacing Cara Springer who will be on a Leave of Absence. Compensation will be set at B, Step 2, \$44,400, prorated, with benefits, effective tentatively September 20, 2012 through the end of the second marking period.

- G. **Support Staff Employees:** Instructional Assistants, effective August 21, 2012, pending updated clearances. Compensation will be set at \$17.36 per hour-degree rate included (employees hired new to the Assistants' Plan will be paid one dollar (\$1.00) less than the regular rate for the first six (6) months of employment)
1. **Melissa N. Willson**, Spring City Elementary School; .5 Instructional Assistant, for a new position without benefits.
 2. **Janet Copenhaver**, 8th Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, replacing Deborah Brown who retired.
 3. **Kelly Ferreri**, 8th Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, replacing Paula Wagner who retired.
 4. **Tiffany Landis**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, replacing Connie Iannetta who transferred to another position.
 5. **Meghan Neiswender**, Brooke Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, replacing Laurann Holcombe who retired.
 6. **Linda McCabe**, Brooke Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, replacing Kathryn Manion who retired.
 7. **Sherri Molishus**, Limerick Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, replacing Sharon Platchek who resigned.
 8. **Melanie Pierce**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, replacing Ethel Sabbi who retired.
 9. **Laura Piland**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, replacing Roseanne Natale who retired.
 10. **Kira Popky**, 5/6th Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, replacing Robin Riegel who resigned.
 11. **Lindsay Shaner**, Limerick Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, replacing Melissa Tripp who resigned.
 12. **Leigh-Ann Sisson**, Limerick Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, replacing Donna Jarvis who retired.
- NEW SUPPORT STAFF EMPLOYEE**
13. **Lauren Oxenford**, 5/6/7th Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, replacing Deborah Cavett who resigned.

H. **Support Staff Employees:**

1. **Melissa Albitz**, District Office; Administrative Assistant, replacing Susan Mehan who retired. Compensation will be set at \$17.50 per hour with benefits as per the Secretaries' Plan, effective August 6, 2012.

2. **Charles Applegate**, District Office; Systems Administrator. Compensation will be set at \$65,000 annually, prorated, with benefits, effective August 27, 2012 pending updated clearances.
3. **Angela DeRosato**, Limerick Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, replacing Susanne Slaton who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$16.36 per hour with benefits as per the Assistants' Plan, effective August 21, 2012 pending updated clearances.
4. **Diane Fern**; District Office; Board Secretary, to be paid a pay differential of \$2.50 per hour for duties and responsibilities performed as Board Secretary, effective August 20, 2012.
5. **Christine Klag**, High School; 3-hour Food Service Employee, replacing Francis Guber who retired. Compensation will be set at \$12.67 per hour without benefits as per the Food Service Plan, effective August 27, 2012 pending updated clearances.
6. **Kathleen Lampmann**, Senior High School; Secretary, replacing Jennifer Hashagen who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$16.50 per hour (degree rate included) with benefits as per the Secretaries' Plan, effective July 2, 2012. (correction to salary from \$15.50 per hour to \$16.50 per hour previously on the June Agenda)
7. **Vicki Yeager**, High School; 3-hour Food Service Employee, replacing Jacqueline Messer who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$12.67 per hour without benefits as per the Food Service Plan, effective August 27, 2012 pending updated clearances.

NEW SUPPORT STAFF EMPLOYEE

8. **Genevieve A. Story**, High School; Attendance Secretary, replacing Betsy Fulton who transferred to another position. Compensation will be set at \$16.50 per hour (degree rate included) as per the Secretarial Plan, effective August 27, 2012.

I. Change In Status:

1. **Connie Iannetta**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Instructional Assistant, to the 5/6th Grade Center; Secretary, for the new 10-month Secretary position, 202 days. Compensation will be set at \$16.50 per hour (degree rate included) with benefits as per the Secretarial Plan, effective August 14, 2012.
2. **Donna Militano**, Upper Providence Elementary School; 10-month Support Technician, to the 12-month Field Technician Position. No change in hourly rate.
3. **Lorraine Moyer**, 7th Grade Center; 12-month Secretary, for the new 10-month Secretarial Position, 202 days. No change in hourly rate.
4. **Elaine Ruppert**, High School; Science Teacher to Assistant Principal, 220 days, replacing Douglas Kent who transferred to the 5/6/7th Grade Center. Compensation will be set at \$92,000 annually with benefits, effective July 30, 2012.

J. Extra- Curricular Contracts 2011-2012: High School

1. Tagg, Karen	Theater Set Designer	\$ 600.00
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K. Extra-Curricular Contracts 2012-2013: High School

1. Jefferson, Carol	Asst. Cross Country Coach	\$3,991.00
2. Jones, Seth	Band Director	\$8,388.00
3. Nicol, David	Men's/Women's Choir Co-Director	\$1,169.50
4. Sanderson, Eileen	Girls' Asst. Lacrosse Coach	\$3,991.00

Department Heads:

5. Barnett, Rebecca A.	English	\$4,845.00
6. Beideman, Kristin A.	Guidance-Secondary	\$2,097.00
7. Cope, Bruce A.	Foreign Language	\$3,868.00
8. Crane, Linda J.	Art	\$4,194.00
9. Davis, Katie A.	Special Education	\$4,845.00
10. Jennings, Krisnoel	Music	\$4,194.00
11. Mulvany, III, Charles R.	Technology Education	\$3,868.00
12. Palladino, Mary C.	Mathematics	\$4,845.00
13. Prevost, Virginia M.	Guidance-Elementary	\$2,097.00
14. Racich, William B.	Physical Education-Health	\$4,194.00
15. Salamone, John M.	Social Studies	\$4,194.00
16. Scheck, Jamie J.	Business Education	\$3,868.00
17. Ward, Diana M.	Family & Consumer Science	\$3,868.00
18. Zelle, Debora	Health Services	\$3,868.00

NEW DEPARTMENT HEAD

19. Obrien, Barbara	Media	\$3,868.00
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L. Extra-Curricular Contracts 2012-2013: 8th Grade Center

1. McKinley, Randel	Girls Soccer Head Coach	\$2,772.00
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M. Extra-Curricular Contracts 2012-2013: Elementary

1. Bateman, Patricia	Spring City Science Coordinator	\$1,104.00
2. Hess, Susan	Limerick Elementary Science Coordinator	\$1,104.00
3. Williams, Kristin	Limerick Elementary Safety Patrol Sponsor	\$ 585.00

NEW EXTRA-CURRICULAR CONTRACT 2012-2013: ELEMENTARY

4. Moran, Jennifer	Spring City Safety Patrol Sponsor	\$ 585.00
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N. Professional Substitutes:

- 1. **Melissa Alexander** Elementary Education
- 2. **Sharon Brownback** Elementary Education
- 3. **Connie Willauer** Elementary Education

NEW PROFESSIONAL SUBSTITUTES:

- 4. **Stalker, Nathan** Spanish
- 5. **Grube, Ashley E.** Biology

O. Personnel Information Item

The individual listed below has completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as a temporary professional employee and is, therefore, approved for tenure status:

- 1. **Megan McCloskey** Mathematics

VI. FINANCE

Mr. Dehnert asked that Letter K be separated. Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-J and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

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

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

1. OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS

Capital Projects Checks held for Board approval

June

Check No. 32680 – 32689 \$ 115,631.47

July

Check No. 32690 – 32697 \$ 235,158.40

***August**

*Check No. 32698 – 32723 \$ 398,321.48

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

July

Daktronics Senior High-Signage \$ 20,596.00

Fresh Metered Concrete Concrete-Signage \$ 553.25

TOTAL \$ 21,149.25

- C. 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.

D. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work SessionJune

Check No. 146545 – 146669 \$ 501,460.00

ACH 111200580 – 111200607 \$ 10,354.54

July

Check No. 146670 – 146868 \$1,021,350.39

ACH 121300002 – 121300024 \$ 6,500.61

August

Check No. 146869 – 147041 \$1,577,561.10

ACH 121300025 – 121300043 \$ 2,778.60

2. Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting

*Check No. 147042 - 147085 \$ 145,089.57

3. Board Checks held for approval

*Check No. 147086 - 147118 \$ 63,126.37

*ACH 121300044 - 121300051 \$ 6,053.56

4. Athletic FundJune

Check No. 304809 – 304836 \$ 36,423.26

July

Check No. 304837 – 304855 \$ 20,158.16

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

1. **Spring-Ford Counseling Services – Royersford, PA.** Provide prevention services to students based on the Student Assistance Program (SAP) referrals and student support groups for the 2012-2013 school year. Funding shall be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed \$15,000.00.
2. **Teaching Learning Succeeding, Inc. – Phoenixville, PA.** Provide consultation and/or training with the implementation of the PA Common Core State Standards. Five days of services on specific dates to be determined shall be provided at a rate of \$575.00 per day and will include the review of the current curriculum implementation, assess areas of curricular growth, and integrate the roles of the curriculum facilitators and content facilitators. Funding will be paid from the 2012-2013 Curriculum Budget and shall not exceed \$2,875.00.
3. **Young Audiences, Arts for Learning – Princeton, NJ.** Provide two (2) programs at Upper Providence Elementary School, entitled, "Jump with Jill, A Rock & Roll Show – On a Mission To Teach Good Nutrition", on September 20, 2012. Funding will be split between the Upper Providence Home and School Association and the Pottstown Health & Wellness Grant and shall not exceed \$1,618.00 (includes \$70 travel fee).
4. **Thom Stecher & Assoc – Malvern, PA.** Provide a follow-up professional development workshop for the teaching & instructional assistant staff at Upper Providence Elementary School, entitled, "Fostering Resilience in the Classroom", on August 22, 2012. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Assembly Account and shall not exceed \$750.00.

5. **Bureau of Lecture & Concert Artists, Inc. – Lawrence, KS.** Provide four (4) assemblies in connection with Chinese Acrobats and African Dance and Drum at Upper Providence Elementary on November 28, 2012 and May 1, 2013. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Assembly Account and shall not exceed \$2,340.00.
6. **Main Line Health Paoli Hospital – Paoli, PA.** Provide second grade and fourth grade nutritional lessons district-wide during the 2012-2013 school year. Funding will be paid from the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant and shall not exceed \$2,720.00.
7. **Dr. John Aylward – Royersford, PA.** Provide medical supervision and emergency treatment services for the 2012-2013 school year in connection with the Athletic Department. Services for varsity games shall be paid at a rate of \$125.00 per game with junior varsity games being paid at a rate of \$75.00 per game. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed \$2,000.00.
8. **Dr. Adam Chrusch – Jenkintown, PA.** Provide medical supervision and emergency treatment services in the absence of Dr. John Aylward for the 2012-2013 school year in connection with the Athletic Department. Services for varsity games shall be paid at a rate of \$125.00 per game with junior varsity games being paid at a rate of \$75.00 per game. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed \$2,000.00.
9. **Friendship Hook Ladder and Ambulance, Inc. – Royersford, PA.** Provide ambulance services for the 2012-2013 school year in connection with the Athletic Department. Services will be provided for high school home varsity and junior varsity football games, middle school home football games and other events deemed necessary by the school district at a rate of \$150.00 per game. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed \$7,500.00.
10. **Richard Weidner – Telford, PA.** Provide a Spring-Ford Transitional Employment Program (S.T.E.P) for special needs students as per their IEPs. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$85,000.00.
11. **Deaf-Hearing Communication Centre – Swarthmore, PA.** Provide sign language interpreter services for meetings and events within the school setting for special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided at a rate of \$54.00 per hour for a total of 12 hours for a total not to exceed \$648.00. The district will also reimburse for mileage at the current IRS rate of \$.555 per mile for up to 200 miles for a total not to exceed \$111.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$759.00.
12. **Education Alternatives – Limerick, PA.** Provision of Direct and the supervision of Applied Behavioral Analysis during the 2012-2013 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Direct services will be provided for 8 hours per week at a rate of \$30.00 per hour and Supervision will be provided for 2 hours per week at a rate of \$95.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$16,770.00.

13. **Melmark School – Berwyn, PA.** Provide educational and related services during the 2012-2013 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Intensive educational services will be provided for 180 days at a rate of \$465.76 per day. Funding will be paid from the 2012-2013 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$83,836.80.
14. **Melmark School – Berwyn, PA.** Provide educational and related services during the 2012-2013 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 180 days at a rate of \$373.02 per day. Funding will be paid from the 2012-2013 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$67,143.60.
15. **Ian Ash, Music Therapy Resources, LLC – Bryn Mawr, PA.** Provide music therapy to a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 36 hours at a rate of \$75.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$2,700.00.
16. **The Timothy School – Berwyn, PA.** Provide an educational placement and services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 180 days at a rate of \$328.06 per day. The contract will be in effect for the 2012-2013 school year or until it is covered under the PDE 4010 Process. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$59,050.80.
17. **Christina Turley – Havertown, PA.** Provide music therapy in the school setting during the 2012-2013 school year for the Multiple Disabilities Support Classroom. Services will be provided for 2 hours per week for 35 weeks at a rate of \$85.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$5,950.00.
18. **Spring Valley YMCA – Limerick, PA.** Provide supervised swimming for special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 1 hour on 1 Friday per month, not to exceed 10 hours total. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$350.00.
19. **Bucks County Intermediate Unit – Doylestown, PA.** Provide educational services for a special needs student during the 2012-2013 school year. Services will include Multiple Disabilities Support. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$46,376.00.
20. **Conversations, Inc. – East Petersburg, PA.** Facilitate the Initial Development of the Leadership Team during the retreat on August 14, 2012. The total cost for this Leadership Development Engagement program shall not exceed \$2,600.00.
21. **Dr. Frederick Fisher – Wynnewood, PA.** Provide psychiatric services, evaluations and re-evaluations for the 2012-2013 school year. Funding will be paid from the 2012-2013 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$15,004.00.
22. **Discovery Education Assessment – Nashville, TN.** Provide Leadership Assessment services over three years including evaluations and professional development. The cost for these services will be paid on an annual basis of \$6,156.00 per year. Funding will come from the Superintendent's Budget and shall not exceed \$18,468.00 over the three year term.

23. **Duane DeWire – Northumberland, PA.** Provide the Spring-Ford High School Marching Band with current state-of-the-art visual design that will stage the music and color of the band for the 2012-2013 school year. Funding will be paid from the 2012-2013 High School Extra-Curricular Fund and shall not exceed \$5,498.00.

NEW INDEPENDENT CONTRACTS

24. **Jack Bracale, DMD – Royersford, PA.** Perform state mandated dental screenings of students in grades 3 and 7 during the 2012-2013 school year as requested by parents/guardians. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed \$4.00 per screening.

F. The Board approved the following bid awards for the 2012-2013 school year as follows:

1. INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

MANUFACTURING SUPPLIES

Metco	\$ 149.36
Satco Supply	<u>\$ 107.45</u>
TOTAL	\$ 256.81

2. COMMUNICATION SUPPLIES

Metco	\$ 74.47
Paxton Patterson	<u>\$ 21.50</u>
TOTAL	\$ 95.97

3. TRANSPORTATION, POWER & ENERGY

Metco	<u>\$ 222.50</u>
TOTAL	\$ 222.50

4. PHOTO SUPPLIES

B&H Photo-Video	<u>\$ 163.98</u>
TOTAL	\$ 163.98

5. WOOD SUPPLY

Metco	\$ 858.03
Paxton Patterson	\$1,341.05
Peter Lumber	\$ 157.95
Satco Supply	<u>\$ 505.18</u>
TOTAL	\$2,862.21

6. INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIES

Metco	\$2,213.14
Paxton Patterson	\$ 567.10
Pitsco	\$1,827.96
Satco Supply	<u>\$ 176.15</u>
TOTAL	\$4,784.35

7. LUMBER SUPPLY

Mann & parker Lumber Company	\$ 226.50
Peter Lumber Company	<u>\$ 566.65</u>
TOTAL	\$ 793.15

8. MECHANICAL DRAWING SUPPLIES

Metco	\$ 92.04
TOTAL	\$ 92.04

G. The Board approved the following bid awards for the 2012-2013 school year as follows:

1. PUBLICATIONS

Boyertown Publishing Co.	\$9,580.00	Newsletter (4 Issues, 8 pages)
Kalil's	\$1,153.00	Crisis Plan
MACORP Print Group	\$3,978.00	Intermediate 5/6 th Grade Handbooks
Star School Items	<u>\$12,025.25</u>	Middle & Senior High Handbooks
TOTAL	\$26,736.25	

H. The Board approved increasing lunch prices for the 2012-2013 school year from \$2.65 to \$2.95 for elementary (1-4) and from \$2.85 to \$3.15 for secondary (5-12). The last increase in prices was for the 2010-2011 school year.

I. The Board approved closing the Computer Club #221 account from the High School Student Activity Accounts.

J. The Board approved awarding All-Sports and Voluntary Accident Insurance to CBIZ Insurance Services utilizing the services of American Management Advisors and the ACE American Insurance Company for student accident insurance. Maximum benefit for both the voluntary & interscholastic sports student accident coverage is \$1,000,000 and the maximum for Catastrophic Accident Medical Insurance is \$5,000,000.

All Sports (Includes Intramural Sports 5-12)	\$ 7,210.00
Catastrophic Medical Coverage	<u>\$ 2,151.00</u>
District Sponsored Payment	\$ 9,361.00

Parent Responsibility

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

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

Mr. Dehnert commented that he looked at the report and it basically starts out with a disclaimer and ends with a disclaimer but does not summarize very well as it just gives a bunch of facts and figures. Mr. Dehnert said he was expecting to see an executive summary that would show what the auditors found as opposed to just numbers and percentages. Mr. Dehnert commented that the report did not provide any real value and he would expect it to contain an analysis and a summary of the analysis. He added that the report did not give an executive summary. Dr. Goodin replied that when Mr. Dehnert brought this up last week he could not remember the Board talking about this audit report and then realized that there had not been a Finance Committee meeting this month which is where the report would have been reviewed. Mr. Dehnert suggested that this motion be tabled so that it could be reviewed at the next Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Dressler agreed with this.

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to table Item K and Mr. Dressler seconded it. The motion passed 5-1 with Mr. DiBello voting no. Item K was tabled.

Mr. DiBello stated that the audit was only \$5,000 in total and was not an extensive audit but more or less the goal was to do an overview of the fund itself in order to make sure that there was nothing that we should be concerned with. Mr. DiBello stated that they will talk about the audit and the Finance Committee meeting and bring it back to the Board.

- K. The Board tabled accepting the independent audit from Maillie, Falconiero & Company on the accounting procedures of the District Cafeteria Services.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items L-V and Mr. Dressler seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

- L. The Board accepted the independent audit from Maillie, Falconiero & Company on the accounting records of the Upper Providence Township Tax Collector for the year ending December 31, 2011.
- M. The Board approved a confidential settlement **#2012-01** and release agreement with the parents of a special needs student and the authorization of payment of \$35,390.00 in full satisfaction of claims, attorney's fees and costs.
- N. The Board approved a confidential settlement **#2012-02** and release agreement with the parents of a special needs student and the authorization of payment of \$72,000.00 in full satisfaction of claims, attorney's fees and costs.
- O. The Board approved the submission of the 2012-2013 Title I Federal Program Grant – Improving Basic Programs in the amount of \$247,254.00 and the 2012-2013 Title II Federal Program Grant – Class Size Reduction and Professional Development in the amount of \$113,703.00.
- P. The Board approved entering into a contract with the Delaware Valley Minority Student Achievement Consortium (DVMSAC) for the 2012-2013 school year. The DVMSAC is a collaborative network of 28 regional school districts that are committed to learn and work together to support and nurture the school success of all of their students. The membership fee for 2012-2013 is \$15,000.00 and will be paid from the General Fund.

NEW FINANCE

- Q. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:

General Fund

- Money Market – June/July 2012
- PSDLAF – June/July 2012
- PSDMAX – June/July 2012
- Checking Account – June/July 2012
- PLGIT Account – June/July 2012
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule - June/July 2012
- Payroll Account – June/July 2012
- Tax Account – June/July 2012

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – June/July 2012
- 7th Grade Activity – June/July 2012
- 8th Grade Activity – June/July 2012
- High School Activity – June/July 2012
- Athletic Account – June/July 2012

Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – June/July 2012

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – June/July 2012
- Debt Service Fund – June/July 2012
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – June/July 2012

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – June/July 2012
- Cafeteria Checking Account – June/July 2012
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – June/July 2012
- Investment Account – June/July 2012

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

JUNE

Check No. 10779 - 10888 \$ 265,766.48

JULY

Check No. 10889 - 10905 \$ 264,162.79

S. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits**:
Permits No. 4091 – 4107

T. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2012-2013 school year:

Limerick Township Exonerations	No. 001 - 009
Royersford Borough Exonerations	No. 001 - 030
Upper Providence Township Exonerations	No. 001 - 057

U. The Board approved entering into an independent contract for additional psychological support services in order to maintain compliancy with state and federal regulations and to avoid potential litigation. This contract is necessary due to an increased referral rate at the secondary level as well as high early intervention referrals. Funding will be paid from the 2012-2013 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$13,000.00.

V. The Edwin A. Thomas Fund has earned interest of \$8.05. According to the stipulation, interest earned shall be allocated towards the purchase of library books. The Board approved the acceptance of the interest donated.

VII. NEW PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mrs. Heine seconded it.

Mr. Dehnert questioned Letter B wondering why this was being paid for from the Capital Reserve Account and with the life expectancy of iPads. He asked why it was not being

funded from the General Fund. Discussion took place regarding which of the Items in Letter B had a longer life expectancy and could be paid for from the Capital Reserve Fund and which with a shorter life span should be paid for from the General Fund. Discussion also took place on the need to set up a plan for a fund that will help pay for future technology purchases. It was determined that \$52,280.00 for the 8 ceiling mounted projectors and 8 Smart Board interactive white boards would be paid from the Capital Reserve Fund and the \$6,000.00 for iPads would be paid for from the General Fund.

The motion passed 6-0

- A. The Board approved of a contract between the Spring-Ford Area School District and the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit for the Virtual High School (VHS) Participation Consortium. The annual membership fee for the 2012-2013 school year is \$5,995.00 for 20 seats per semester. Funding will come from the 2012-2013 Curriculum and Instruction Budget and shall not exceed \$5,995.00.
- B. The Board approved the purchase of technology equipment to outfit 8 "Smart Classrooms" at the Spring City Elementary Hybrid Learning School. This purchase will provide each of the 8 classrooms with a ceiling-mounted projector, a SMART Board interactive white board, and 10 iPad tablet computers. The purchase will also provide a single iPad "sync station" for the school. The funding for the projectors and the SMART Boards will come from the Capital Reserve Fund and shall not exceed \$52,280.00 and the funding for the iPads and sync station will come from the General Fund and shall not exceed \$6,000.00.

VIII. PROPERTY

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

- A. The Board approved awarding the contract for sidewalks, district-wide, to Drumheller Construction, the lowest bidder for the 2012-2013 school year, at \$5.00/SF. Funding will be paid from the Maintenance General Fund Budget.
- B. The Board approved awarding the contract for curbing, district-wide to The Pavement Group, the lowest bidder for the 2012-2013 school year, at \$20.00/SF. Funding will be paid from the Maintenance General Fund Budget.
- C. The Board approved awarding the contract for paving, district-wide, to Charlestown Paving, the lowest bidder for the 2012-2013 school year, at \$28.00/SY. Funding will be paid from the Maintenance General Fund Budget.

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

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

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

DISTRICT-WIDE

- A. **Dr. David R. Goodin**, Superintendent of Schools, to attend "*The Center for Quality Leadership School Research Nexus*" in the Fall of 2012 and the Spring of 2013. The total cost for this annual membership is \$5,500.00 and will be paid as part of Dr. Goodin's contract.
- B. **Dr. Jeanmarie Mason**, Supervisor of Special Education, to attend "*Eastern Pennsylvania Administrator's Special Education Conference*" in Hershey, PA from October 24 through October 26, 2012. The total cost for this conference is \$454.00 for lodging, to be paid from the 580 account. All other expenses are being paid by Dr. Mason. No substitute is needed.
- C. **Mickey McDaniel**, Director of Athletics, to attend the "*Pennsylvania School Study Council 2012 Academics and Athletics*" at Penn State University in State College, PA on September 20, 2012. The total cost for this conference is \$323.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Pettit seconded it. Mr. Dehnert asked that Item A4 and A5 be separated. Mr. Ciresi withdrew his motion and Mr. Pettit withdrew his second.

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items B-C and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A1-A3 and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

Mrs. Heine made a motion for Items A4-A7 and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Dehnert commented that he is against changing the current nepotism policy because he does not think we should discriminate against Board Members and Administrators that have people in their family that are qualified for positions. Mr. Dehnert added that we are going to limit opportunities for people who volunteer their time, people that do not have any control over who is on the School Board in their family and who works for the district. Mr. Dehnert stated that this unfairly discriminates against these people.

Mr. Ciresi commented that he feels this is a good policy to put into place as we are the second largest district in Montgomery County, one of the largest in the state of Pennsylvania, and ranking higher and higher throughout the country. Mr. Ciresi stated that our employee pool is only growing and growing by the opportunity we have afforded our students and by our educational values. Mr. Ciresi said with unemployment being almost 9% across the nation people are moving and it is no longer that you work within 10 miles of your home as some of us drive 40 miles on a daily basis. Mr. Ciresi stated that he thinks we are expanding our opportunity and shows that the nine people sitting here have no interest in making any kind of financial money or pushing any relatives within the system, and it also shows that our Administration have no interest in pushing any of their family members within the district. Mr. Ciresi stated that it does not say that the family members are not qualified as it is just one of the ways that businesses move forward. Mr. Ciresi stated that there is the opportunity that if there was a Board Member who had a relative that deserved a position then the Board

Member could resign and have another community member take their place. Mr. Ciresi said he is in favor of moving forward with these policies.

Mr. Dehnert stated that part of the argument that Mr. Ciresi is using is that there is a 9% unemployment rate so the people who would be excluded by this policy are having a tough time getting a job so this would make it tougher.

Mr. Ciresi argued that we are not contributing to the unemployment rate. The Philadelphia School System has massive openings all over the place. Mr. Ciresi stated that he is not going to get into a debate over this and he thinks that what this policy shows is that the Board has character and are willing to say that nine of them are sitting here without having a vested interest in pushing family members into a position within the district. Mr. Ciresi said Mr. Dehnert has a right to disagree and he feels that we have argued this at the table and within committees and we need to move forward one way or the other.

Mr. Dehnert said that is why he is voicing his objection.

The motion passed 5-1 with Mr. Dehnert voting no.

A. The following policies were approved:

1. Policy #121 – PROGRAMS: Field Trips/Educational Trips
2. Policy #214 – PUPILS: Class Rank
3. Policy #217 – PUPILS: Graduation Requirements
4. Policy #303 – ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES: Nepotism (to be rescinded)
5. Policy #304 – ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES: Anti-Nepotism
6. Policy #404.1 – PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES: Nepotism (to be rescinded)
7. Policy #504.1 – CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: Nepotism (to be rescinded)

B. The Board approved the admission of **Ji Hyun Yun**, a foreign exchange student, for the 2012-2013 school year. Ji Hyun is a young lady from Busan, South Korea, and is sponsored by the Rotary International Youth Exchange. Rotary International has a long-standing relationship with the Spring-Ford Area School District, placing students annually. High School Administrators have reviewed her application and everything appears to be in order.

C. The Board approved the admission of **Hege Leknes**, a foreign,exchange student, for the 2012-2013 school year. Hege is a young lady from Drobak, Norway, and is sponsored by the STS Foundation. High School Administrators have reviewed her application and everything appears to be in order.

XI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was no report.

XII. DISCUSSION ITEM

Mr. Ciresi asked if Mr. Anspach could speak about the current funding mechanism in place at the vocational school and how it works on the capital project side. Mr. Anspach reported that the funding mechanism is controlled by the by-laws which stipulate that on capital items it is based on the most recent market values. Mr. Anspach stated that when the renovation project took place there was a lot of contention with the funding mechanism and it was changed at that time to put a \$40 million cap on the project but at the same time the reimbursement rate was

changed to base it on market value and utilization by students using the Average Daily Membership Rate (ADM). The rate was 60% of the five-year average on ADM's and 40% of the most recent market value. Mr. Anspach commented that if you base the funding mechanism on market value only, Spring-Ford has changed drastically since 1975 when the by-laws were drafted as back then the amount was around 43% whereas today it is close to 60%.

Mr. DiBello stated that if he understands what Mr. Anspach is saying then if there was a capital improvement project at the Western Center then Spring-Ford would be liable for 60% of the costs and Mr. Anspach replied yes according to the way the by-laws are written. Mr. DiBello stated that when the Western Center renovation project was being negotiated it was determined that for that project only the funding would be based on market value and ADM and now it reverts back to the original agreements. Mr. Anspach confirmed this was correct.

Mr. Ciresi commented that the question that comes up tonight is regarding basing the funding on a fairer system of utilization than the worth of the community. Mr. Ciresi said when the Articles of Agreement were put into place the three sending districts were about equal to each other with a little variable on each end but what has happened now is that Spring-Ford's value has taken off and we are now liable for 60%. Mr. Ciresi said the argument has been made on why we are discussing this now when the building has just been renovated and the response is that when this comes up again it will be the fight that we had the last time for 10 years to renovate the building. Mr. Ciresi stated we should do this now and come to some type of terms while everything is still brand new. Mr. Ciresi said what he was charged with was to come back to this Board and see what Spring-Ford would like to see a new agreement look like for funding capital expenditures. Mr. Ciresi asked for the Board's input on this.

Mr. Dressler asked if there was anything wrong with having it based strictly on utilization. Mr. Pettit stated that was his question as well.

Mrs. Heine reported that they were having a hard enough time getting the other two sending districts to look at this at all.

Mr. Fitzgerald said the by-laws were written 30+ years ago and you need a majority for any significant change to be made to the provisions. Mr. Fitzgerald said you have 9 Board Members here but another 18 who could vote against what you would like to see happen. Mr. Fitzgerald said if there is a move to change the by-laws you would have to have a convention where the 27 Board Members would come together to amend the articles.

Mr. Ciresi asked if there was any precedent where we could get 51% of the vote and the other two sending districts would have 49% since we are currently paying the lion's share of any capital projects. Mr. Fitzgerald said no it would mean little as it is going to be the clear language of the by-laws that were entered into.

Mr. DiBello said there has to be a happy medium. He stated that we need to have a convention and if it is voted down then at least Spring-Ford tried to do right by their taxpayers.

Mrs. Heine asked what fair would look like in Spring-Ford's eyes. Mr. DiBello said our share should definitely less than 50%.

Mr. Dehnert said a fair way would be to take the life of the project to be voted on and take a projection of the number of students from each district for the life of the project.

Mrs. Heine stated that if you ask what our projection was and where we sit right now the numbers are very different so if you do it on projection we would be in a position where we would be paying a lot more.

Mr. DiBello commented that if you look back over the past 12 years, prior to this Board pushing to get enrollment up, we were averaging about 100 – 105 students that we were sending to the Western Center. Mr. DiBello stated that the year before is when we really started to push and now our enrollment is up 17% this year. Mr. DiBello stated that he thinks they are all saying the same thing and that is to get it as close to utilization as possible. Mr. DiBello stated that he does not know how you can go and throw numbers on the table without some value behind it so we have to be able to quantify what we are saying.

Mr. Dressler stated that right now we are faced with having to convince two groups of three to take something back to their individual boards and he is not optimistic that they are going to be enthusiastic about doing that but we can certainly try. Mr. Dressler asked for specifics on what the Board would like the JOC members to present to the other two sending districts. Mr. DiBello asked what Mr. Dressler's recommendation would be and Mr. Dressler replied something based on utilization because that would be the fair way of doing it. Mr. DiBello stated that is what everyone is saying so that is what we want to go back with.

Mr. Dehnert suggested that it be based on the PlanCon projection because there will be a projection in the PlanCon for the number of students that are going to go to the Western Center. Mr. DiBello said he is not sure how realistic the PlanCon was versus what's there. Mr. Dehnert said if that is what you are submitting to the state it is supposed to be the best estimate.

Mr. Anspach commented that this is where sensitivity comes in because the PlanCon use to deal with anything over \$25,000 and really if you look at the by-laws it states a capital item. Mr. Anspach explained that a capital item could be \$5,000 so you might want to establish a dollar threshold. Mr. Anspach stated that as of right now the small capital items are buried in the operational costs. Dr. Goodin confirmed this was correct and the stand alone capital projects have been buried in the general operating fund. Mr. Anspach stated that his concern is that if you make this too much of an issue the other two districts might come back and say from this point forward they are going to treat those as capital items and abide by the by-laws which say the funding would be based on market values. Mr. Anspach recommended that if the Board is going to move this forward that they go with a threshold of a dollar figure.

Mr. Ciresi stated that with all due respect, if they want to become petty with us we are playing in a different ballgame. Mr. Ciresi added that we are not asking for anything outside the realm of what we should be asking for. Mr. Ciresi stated that the precedent has been set from what Mr. Anspach just said and for the last 20+ years they have been doing all that based on per student enrollment so if it is good enough for those projects then why is it not good for the big projects. Mr. Ciresi commented that we took a lot of heat in the last 7 years on not building the building and there was a lot of division amongst board members, administration and the community. Mr. Ciresi said we are trying to stop that from happening in the future and put the focus where it should be and that is education. Mr. Ciresi said if that does come up at the table then he thinks it is time for us to step forward and say we want 51% of the vote. Mr. Ciresi added that it is not fair for 18 members of two districts to come back and rifle it through to the

residents of Spring-Ford and make us pay for it. Mr. Ciresi stated that we had an opportunity to do this type of program here at home and we chose not to do it although he opposed it and still looking back he believes it would have been a good decision to do it here because of what we are now talking about right now and having full control of the building. Mr. Ciresi said we are at a great place with a new building and a new day and he hopes that they are able to go back to them with something and hear them at least come to the table and talk. Mr. Ciresi reported that one comment that was made was from Upper Perkiomen's representative and that was that Upper Perkiomen does not even want to talk about this as they like the funding mechanism that is in place. Mr. Ciresi said the hope is that they can have a real conversation based on what is fair and equitable across the board. Mr. Ciresi stated that what matters is that we have a fair deal in place that everyone can live by. He said that the 3 Spring-Ford JOC members will go back and suggest a much more fair and equitable process and this is a priority and cannot be shelved for years.

A. Western Montgomery Career and Technology Center - Funding Mechanism

XIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Alyson D'Alessandro introduced herself as the new local editor of the Limerick Patch. She stated that the Board and the Administration to please should feel free to contact her if she can do anything for them. Mr. DiBello thanked her and welcomed her.

Jen Riordan - Spring City, stated that on behalf of the parents of the new Spring City Hybrid Learning Center they would like to thank the Board and Dr. Goodin for their support of the technology funds for the iPads and the SmartBoards. Ms. Riordan said they are all very excited to be a part of this new initiative and the Home and School Association would not have been able to provide these funds for these purchases. She added that they really appreciate the investment that is being made in their school and their children. Ms. Riordan again expressed her thanks.

Mr. DiBello commented that the Board is very excited also about implementing this program. He stated that it was said in the past and he is going to say it again, although there are one or two other districts that are implementing a Hybrid Learning Classroom, Spring-Ford is the first in the country that we know of to implement it across the board from kindergarten through 4th grade. Mr. DiBello said the Board is looking forward to the piloting of this program and looking forward to seeing how we can implement it in our other schools in the years to come.

Mr. Pettit added that they are very excited about this and hope to spread it throughout the district in relatively short order. Mr. Pettit asked for feedback from Spring City on how the students are doing with the Hybrid Learning and how well it is working.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
Board Secretary