On September 22, 2014 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: Willard D. Cromley and Kelly J. Spletzer
Region II: Dawn R. Heine, Clinton L. Jackson and Todd R. Wolf
Region III: Mark P. Dehnert and Thomas J. DiBello
Presiding Officer: Joseph P. Ciresi
Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin
Business Manager: Timothy Anspach
Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.
Student Reps.: Taylor M. Auman and Dana K. Ludgate

The following Board Member was absent: Bernard F. Pettit

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Mr. Ciresi announced that the Board met in an Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel.

Mrs. Fern reminded everyone of the programming that runs on RCTV which can be viewed online or on Comcast Channel 969 and Verizon Channel 44.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY
There were no comments from the public.

II. PRESENTATION
Dr. Goodin introduced Dr. Patschke, Mr. Nugent and Mr. Reigner and stated that they are here along with some teachers and students to talk about the Life Skills Conference Resiliency Program. Dr. Patschke spoke about the Pottstown Health and Wellness Foundation and how it supports some critical initiatives in our schools and our community. She stated that the Resiliency Program is one of those initiatives. Dr. Patschke spoke about the select group of students that were chosen at the high school to represent their peers and participate in a Life Skills Conference which took place over this past summer. Dr. Patschke stated that the students are here tonight to talk about their experiences at the conference. She introduced Katie Davis, a Spring-Ford Teacher, who serves as one of the student leaders.

Ms. Davis spoke about the conference and reported that there were 120 participants from the various school districts who came together and felt like family by the time they
were leaving. Ms. Davis introduced the students and asked them to come forward to talk about their time at the Life Skills Conference. Students relayed the various activities they participated in and that the conference taught them respect, responsibility, how to build better relationships, the necessary steps for feeling secure within a group of strangers, how not to judge people, peer mentorship skills, how to deal with bullying, how to take the skills learned at the life skills conference with them when they leave high school and go out into the workplace, how to take the skills learned at the life skills conference with them when they leave high school and go out into the workplace, and helped them build on who they are and be confident with themselves. Students spoke about the need for a program like this being incorporated into the high school so that a positive influence could be created amongst all of the students. Each student summarized in one word what they took from the experience which included; responsibility, vulnerability, growth, respect, unity, trust, security, spiritual, non-judgmental, and strength.

Dr. Patschke thanked everyone for supporting the students and these initiatives around resiliency in our schools and stated that as you can see it truly matters. Dr. Goodin commended Dr. Patschke for taking something that was discussed 4 years ago in the wake of some tragedies and weaving the resiliency initiative throughout the district. He thanked her for spearheading this initiative.

A. Dr. Melissa Patschke, Upper Providence Elementary Principal, Patrick Nugent, High School 10-12 Grade Center Principal, Douglas Reigner, 11th Grade House Principal, Katie Davis, 9th Grade Teacher, Gerry Rogers, 10-12 Grade Teacher, Mahala Femovich, Ursinus College Representative, Thom Stecher and Alex Fizz, Representatives of Stecher and Associates, Jale Aydin, Cole Callow, Ryan Chesler, Tina Demopolis, Cameron Ferry, Sky Moore, Ali Rich, and Reem Saffa, Students, to present “Resiliency Through Life Skills: High School Action Team”.

III. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Property  
Joseph Ciresi  
2nd Tues. 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Ciresi reported that the Property Committee met on September 17th and looked at new opportunities and options for the scoreboard at Ram Stadium. Mr. Ciresi stated that one of the options looked at has a cost of $44,000 and Spring City American Legion has committed to contributing $17,500 towards the expense. The committee also discussed the demolition of the old district office and a motion for this is on the agenda this evening. He added that there were some issues with asbestos removal which pushed the cost of the demolition up a bit. Mr. Ciresi reported that the committee also discussed a walking path around Evans Elementary. The sign for the 5/6/7 Grade Center was discussed and hopefully in the near future it will be installed. The committee reviewed the PECO energy savings. The district-wide security audit was discussed. Mr. Ciresi invited everyone to attend the October 18th re-dedication ceremony for the 9th Grade Center Arboretum at 10:00 a.m.

Personnel  
Thomas DiBello

Mr. DiBello stated that before he gives the Personnel Committee report he would like to ask that Item F under New Personnel be moved forward and be voted on now. The Board agreed.

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Item F under Personnel and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The Board held a roll call vote with the 8 board members present voting aye. There was one board member who was absent, Bernard Pettit.
F. The Board approved the Mediator’s Proposal for ratification of the Professional Agreement between the Spring-Ford Area School District and the Spring-Ford Educators Association.

Mr. DiBello read the highlights of the Mediator’s Proposal which was just approved.

Mr. Ciresi thanked everyone involved with the agreement on behalf of the board especially the Negotiating Committee and the Personnel Committee. He stated that a lot of time and effort was put into this and we are now seeing the fruits of their labor. Mr. Ciresi stated that as a team we can move Spring-Ford forward and he looks forward to that.

WMCTC Ciresi, Cromley, Heine 1st Mon. 7:00 p.m.
Mr. Cromley reported that the WMCTC Joint Operating Committee met on September 8th. Mr. Moritzen reported on the enrollment numbers for the Western Center which showed a total enrollment for all 3 sending districts of 497 with Spring-Ford’s enrollment being 83 students in the AM and 96 in the PM for a total of 179. Mr. Cromley reported on the classes with the highest enrollments. Mr. Cromley spoke of the flag raising ceremony that was held on September 11th in memory of the tragic events that took place on 9/11/01. Mr. Moritzen advised the JOC that he had met with the culinary art students and they will be starting to serve themed culinary dinners on the same nights as the JOC meeting. Mr. Moritzen will meet with principals of the sending schools regarding a 9th grade exploratory program. There have been talks with Outback Steakhouse regarding starting an Outback Culinary Program. The Cosmetology Program will be offering an extended school day option that will allow students to get some clinical experience while generating revenue for the program. Mr. Cromley provided student success stories relating to projects being done in conjunction with the arboretum dedication ceremony. He reported that the Western Center is looking into an online application program that would also track enrollment numbers. The committee discussed the Kline Road House Project which is now at the stage where it can be put up for sale. Mr. Cromley reported that any future house construction projects will be conducted on-site at the Western Center. There is also a process to create an Emergency Medical Technician night course which could net the Western Center a profit of $7,500 - $8,000. Mr. Cromley reported that the WMCTC now has a new logo which he showed to everyone. Mr. Cromley reminded everyone of the Skills USA Spaghetti Dinner which will be held on October 23rd from 5:00 – 8:00.

Mr. DiBello asked the building of small houses on-site and he asked where they are being constructed. Mr. Cromley replied that the houses would be built on-site at the Western Center and that they would be similar to those houses that you would find at a camp site which can be broken down easily and moved to another location.

Mr. DiBello spoke about previous years when the numbers at the Western Center were much smaller and we were probably spending about $25,000 to send a student there for ½ a day. Mr. DiBello stated that as our enrollment has gone up and the more we take advantage of this school this figure goes down.

Mr. Ciresi commented that the most important factor is that this is the first time in the past couple of years that he JOC has seen all three sending districts speaking the same language. He stated that the new director has many ideas to help expand the programs. Mr. Ciresi reported that the district plans on having Mr. Moritzen come out to a board meeting and meet everyone. He added that the Western Center is not the same as it
was years ago and everyone should take a look at the vastly improved facility.

**Extracurricular**

Will Cromley  
2nd Mon. 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Cromley reported that the Extracurricular Committee met on September 3rd and viewed a presentation by Mr. McDaniel on highlights of the fall sports at the high school. The presentation included information that participation in athletics numbered well over 500 students. Mr. Cromley spoke of a trip the athletes took to Penn State where they had a tour of the campus. Mr. Cromley thanked Mrs. Valenteen for providing the committee with the pictures taken during the college experience. Mr. Cromley reported that there were potential revisions being made to the end of season surveys that student athletes are asked to complete. The changes are designed to clarify the varsity and the junior varsity surveys as well as to add two questions regarding communication skills. The committee received a follow-up of the professional lighting contract for the fall and spring fine arts programs and Mr. Nugent and Dr. Roche will be meeting with the potential candidate to fill this contract. Mr. Cromley added that discussion also took place on the possible use of outside organizations to support the lighting and sound program. He added that they also spoke about the potential of using professional musicians for the spring musical and more details will follow with regards to this. The November Extracurricular meeting was changed from November 10th to November 12th.

**Superintendent’s Report**

Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin extended an invitation on behalf of the School Board to the public to attend the rededication ceremony of the 9th Grade Center Memorial Arboretum on Saturday, October 18th at 10:00 AM. Dr. Goodin announced that the district is honored to announce that two Spring-Ford High School students have been accepted into the United States All American Army Marching Band. The students were selected from more than 1300 students from 47 states by the National Association for Music Education All American Games and Drum Corp International. Dr. Goodin invited everyone to join the high school student body and administrative team in celebrating this special accomplishment with a special presentation by the U.S. Army Marching Band and a performance by the Spring-Ford Area High School Marching Band. The two students will be formally announced during this presentation on October 9th at 12:45 a.m. at the high school. Dr. Goodin next announced that the district is proud to announce that three high school students, Hans Kumar, William Leisner and Alexander Tomarelli, have been designated as National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists. He congratulated them on this impressive accomplishment. Dr. Goodin also announced that we have a student whose name cannot be released as of yet but who was named as a National Merit Achievement Finalist. Dr. Goodin stated that these students will be recognized at the October Board Meeting. Dr. Goodin reported on the Spring-Ford Senior High School Ram Buddies who will be participating in a new bowling training and competition program through the Special Olympics Scholastic Unified Sports Program. Dr. Goodin announced that this was the last meeting for Communication Solutions to attend and cover our school board meetings and he thanked Leza Raffel for all the work her company has done for the district over the past several years. Dr. Goodin announced that he is the proud grandfather of Elsie Joy who was born to his oldest son and daughter-in-law.

**Solicitor’s Report**

Mark Fitzgerald

There was no report.
IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

A. The Board approved the August 18, 2014 Work Session minutes. (Attachment A1)
B. The Board approved the August 25, 2014 Board Meeting minutes. (Attachment A2)

V. PERSONNEL
Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-E plus G, F was already approved, and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

A. Resignations

New Resignations

B. Leave of Absence

C. Temporary Professional Employees
1. Ann Marie Brown, Guidance Counselor, 5/6th Grade Center; replacing Shannon Dallahan who resigned. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 1, $44,500.00
prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: September 8, 2014.

2. **Alicia Coletti**, Special Education - Learning Support Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center; replacing Crystal Stubbs who had a change of assignment. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 1, $44,500.00 prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 27, 2014.

**D. Support Staff Employees**

1. **Celeste Baumgardner**, Instructional Assistant, Royersford Elementary School. Compensation will be set at $17.36/hour (degree rate) per the Instructional Assistants’ Plan. Effective: August 27, 2014.

2. **Susan J. Kelly**, Instructional Assistant, Oaks Elementary School; replacing Matthew Ricci who resigned. Compensation will be set at $17.36/hour (degree rate) per the Instructional Assistants’ Plan. Effective: August 25, 2014.

**New Support Staff Employee**

3. **Joan C. Gerretz**, Part-time (3 hour/day) Food Service, Senior High School. Compensation will be set at $12.91/hour per the Food Service Plan. Effective: September 22, 2014.

**E.** The Board approved the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2014-2015 school year. Bolded names are new additions since the Work Session. 

(Attachment A3)

**New Personnel Motion**

**F.** The Board approved the Mediator’s Proposal for ratification of the Professional Agreement between the Spring-Ford Area School District and the Spring-Ford Educators Association.

**New Professional Employee**

**G. Tammy L. Baumeister**, PT (.50) Reading Specialist, Royersford Elementary; replacing Wendy Taylor who had a change of assignment. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 2, $45,700 prorated with benefits as per the Professional Agreement. Effective: TBD.

**VI. FINANCE**

Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve Items A-M and Mr. Cromley seconded it. Mr. DiBello asked that Item L be separated. Mrs. Heine withdrew her motion and Mr. Cromley withdrew his second.

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-M omitting L and Mr. Ciresi seconded it.
Mr. Cromley asked about Item E9 wondering why one of the elementary schools was not listed and whether it was a financial issue. Dr. Roche replied that he did not believe it was a financial issue and Spring City was visiting Limerick Elementary for a joint day so this is what it could be tied to.

The motion passed 8-0.

*DEVELOPERS PAYMENTS SINCE THE WORK SESSION*

A. The Board approved next month’s payroll, taxes, all benefits, transportation contracts, IU contracts, Vo-Tech payments, debt service payments, utility bills, maintenance agreements, copier leases, equipment maintenance, Federal grants, insurance, and discounted invoices.

B. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session
   
   **August**
   
   Check No. 154587 – 154704 $1,029,123.44
   ACH 141500052 – 141500069 $11,404.75

   **September**
   
   Check No. 154705 – 154882 $1,652,755.13
   ACH 141500070 – 141500085 $15,050.14

2. Athletic Fund
   
   **August**
   
   Check No. 307184 – 307239 $65,691.08

3. *Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting*
   
   **September**
   
   *Check No. 154883 – 154949 $336,530.10
   *ACH 141500086 – 141500092 $2,232.19

4. *Board Checks held for approval*
   
   **September**
   
   *Check No. 154950 – 155003 $379,675.27
   *ACH 141500093 – 141500105 $974.69

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

1. *OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS*
   
   *Capital Projects Checks held for approval*
   
   **September**
   
   *Check No. 32856 – 32857 $66,165.51
D. The Board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of SEPTEMBER in connection with the CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT – Fund 32:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Invoice Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*CDW Government Inc. Technology-Equip.</td>
<td>$ 572.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Central Restaurant Prd Sr. High Media Ctr.-Café~ Equipment</td>
<td>$ 591.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Karl &amp; Associates Professional Services (2 Inv.)</td>
<td>$ 4,541.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Office Service Co. Sr. High Media Ctr.-Café~ Equipment (2 Invoices)</td>
<td>$ 1,172.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Spring-Ford ASD Simplex Grinnell-Royersford Elem-Fire Alarm Upgrade</td>
<td>$ 49,561.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Underwriter Inspection Professional Services</td>
<td>$ 150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Waterproofing Tech. Roof Repairs Applic. #3 - 8th Grade Center Roof Repairs</td>
<td>$ 10,381.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$ 66,971.17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E. The Board approved the following independent contracts that are being funded by the Home and School Associations, the Home and School League, the Parent Teacher Associations and the Parent Teacher Organizations:

1. **Thom Stecher & Associates – Malvern, PA.** Facilitate training for the Upper Providence Elementary staff and meet with grade level staff in conjunction with Upper Providence Elementary’s Unity Day. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School Association and shall not exceed $2,000.00.

2. **Great Valley Nature Center – Devault, PA.** Provide two presentations for the kindergarten classes at Upper Providence Elementary entitled “Eggs-Traordinary Spring”. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School Association and shall not exceed $198.90.

3. **Great Valley Nature Center – Devault, PA.** Provide two presentations for the kindergarten classes at Upper Providence Elementary entitled “Colonial Times”. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School Association and shall not exceed $198.90.

4. **Great Valley Nature Center – Devault, PA.** Provide four assemblies for the students at Limerick Elementary on accepting responsibility entitled “Animal Colors”, “Winter Wonders” “Eggs-Traordinary Spring” and “Reptiles”. Funding will be paid by the Limerick Elementary Home and School League and shall not exceed a total of $562.00.

5. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide three assemblies for kindergarten students at Royersford Elementary entitled “Winter Secrets: Animals in Winter”. Funding will be paid by the Royersford Parent Teacher Organization and shall not exceed $330.00.
6. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide an assembly for kindergarten students at Spring City Elementary entitled “Winter Secrets: Animals in Winter”. Funding will be paid by the Spring City Home and School Association and shall not exceed $110.00.

7. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide four assemblies for kindergarten students at Upper Providence Elementary entitled “Winter Secrets: Animals in Winter”. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School Association and shall not exceed $440.00.

8. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide five assemblies for kindergarten students at Evans Elementary entitled “Winter Secrets: Animals in Winter”. Funding will be paid by the Evans Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed $550.00.

**New Independent Contract** being funded by the parent organizations:


F. The Board approved the following independent contracts:

1. **Thom Stecher & Associates – Malvern, PA.** Facilitate training for the entire staff and meet individually with the 7th grade level staff in conjunction with Unity Day. Funding will be paid from the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Grant and shall not exceed $10,000.00.

2. **Thom Stecher & Associates – Malvern, PA.** Provide district-wide Resiliency, Support and Training Sessions for grades 5-12. Funding will be paid from the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Grant and shall not exceed $10,000.00.

3. **TLS Teaching Learning Succeeding, LLC – Phoenixville, PA.** Provide consultation, planning and training in Assessment Principles, Differentiated Instruction and meeting the needs of high achieving learners, especially in English/Language Arts and Science. Services will be provided for 11 days with dates to be determined at a rate of $575.00 per day. Funding will be paid from the Curriculum and Instruction Budget and shall not exceed $6,325.00.

4. **Jack Bracale, DMD – Royersford, PA.** Perform state mandated dental screenings of students in grades 3 and 7 during the 2014-2015 school year as requested by parents/guardians. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed $4.00 per screening.
New Independent Contracts

5. **Kaleidoscope Family Solutions, Inc. – Bryn Mawr, PA.** Provide a speech therapist for 7.5 hours per day for 27 weeks at a rate of $80.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $80,000.00.

6. **Medley and Mesaric Therapy Associates – Fort Washington, PA.** Review records, consult, train and make recommendations for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 20 hours at a rate of $140.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $2,800.00.

7. **Spring-Ford Family Practice (Pottstown Medical Specialists, Inc.) – Pottstown, PA.** Perform state mandated school physical examinations; provide standing orders and consultation regarding school-based medical issues during the 2014-2015 school year as requested by parents/guardians. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed $17.00 per student physical.

8. **Catherine Forcey – Collegeville, PA.** Provide specialized reading instruction for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 5 sessions per week for 12 weeks at a rate of $30.00 per session. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $1,800.00.

9. **Steve Conway, Montgomery County ASPCA – Conshohocken, PA.** Provide two assemblies for the kindergarten classes at Upper Providence Elementary on basic pet care and pet safety awareness. There is no charge to the district for these presentations.

New Finance

G. The following Treasurers’ Reports were Board approved:

**General Fund**
- Money Market – August 2014
- PSDLAF – August 2014
- PSDMAX – August 2014
- Checking Account – August 2014
- PLGIT Account – August 2014
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule - August 2014
- Payroll Account – August 2014
- Tax Account – August 2014

**Activity Accounts**
- Elementary Activity – August 2014
- 7th Grade Activity – August 2014
- 8th Grade Activity – August 2014
- High School Activity – August 2014
- Athletic Account – August 2014

**Bond Funds**
- Note of 2007A – August 2014
Other Funds
- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – August 2014
- Debt Service Fund – August 2014
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – August 2014

Cafeteria Fund
- Cafeteria Money Market – August 2014
- Cafeteria Checking Account – August 2014
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – August 2014
- Investment Account – August 2014

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

AUGUST
Check No. 11926 -11956 $ 134,985.66

I. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits:**
Permits No. 4876 – 4998

J. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2014-2015 school year:

Royersford Borough Exonerations No. 059 – 089
Spring City Borough Exonerations No. 016 – 023

K. The Board approved the following **additions/deletions** to the per capita tax for the 2014-2015 school year:

Royersford Borough Additions No. 001 - 144
Royersford Borough Deletions No. 285 - 342

M. The Board authorized Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 70 Buckwalter Road in Limerick Township, identified as Tax Parcel No. 37-00-05317-00-1, setting the assessment of the property at $8,178,600 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-2015) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property’s assessment pursuant to applicable law.

Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve Item L and Mr. DiBello seconded it.

Mr. Dehnert asked that Item L be tabled until after the election in November due to the push for property tax reform. Mr. Dehnert stated that there was no rush to do this now and he would like to see the Board wait on this.

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to table Item L and Mr. Jackson seconded it. The motion passed 5-3 with Mr. Jackson, Mr. Wolf, Mr. Cromley, Mr. Dehnert and Mrs. Spletzer voting yes and Mr. Ciresi, Mr. DiBello and Mrs. Heine voting no. The motion was tabled.

Mr. DiBello commented that the recommendation for this motion came from the Finance Committee and if the Board is not going to follow through with committee recommendations then why have committees spend long evenings discussing and going through all of the details on items placed on the agenda for approval.
The Board Members discussed their reasons for and against voting to table the motion. They also discussed their feelings on the value of committee meetings and recommendations that come out of committee meetings which are not approved. The Board spoke about property tax reform and the need for our local legislators to act on this.

L. The Board tabled Resolution 2014-22 which eliminates the Per Capita Tax, effective for the 2015-2016 school year. (Attachment A4)

VII. NEW PROPERTY
Mr. DiBello asked that Item C be separated. Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

A. The Board approved awarding a contract for the Asbestos and Hazardous Waste Removal at the Old Administration Building, 199 Bechtel Road, Collegeville, PA to the lowest responsible bidder, Neuber Environmental Services, Inc., in the amount of $79,860.00, rejecting all other bids. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Account.

B. The Board approved awarding a contract for the Demolition of the Old Administration Building, 199 Bechtel Road, Collegeville, PA to the lowest responsible bidder, B.R.B. Contractors, Inc., in the amount of $79,500.00. Administration also recommends Alternate Bid #G-1 to fill the basement area with structural fill, for an amount of $5,500.00, rejecting all other bids. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve Account.

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Item C and Mr. Cromley seconded it.

Mr. DiBello commented that millions of dollars were spent on the field and he questioned why it was necessary to resurface the track in such a short period of time. Dr. Goodin stated that his understanding from the Property Committee meeting and in talking with Mr. Cooper that it is time for the track to be recoated according to the maintenance plan he has. Mr. Ciresi clarified that they were just going out to bid and not committing any money at this point.

The motion passed 8-0.

C. The Board approved seeking bids or obtain pricing from a state approved contract for the recoating and lining of the all-weather track at Coach McNelly Stadium as per the Capital Reserve Plan. Information obtained will be further discussed at the Property Committee meeting.

VIII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM
Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

A. Administration recommends approval for the purchase of the Barracuda Email Archive System to replace the existing Nearpoint Mimosa Email Archive System which is nearing the end of its useful life. The district is required, by policy and by law, to maintain a 2-year archive of all email messages that are sent and received through the district’s email system. The cost of the Barracuda Archive System is
$32,753.78 and includes 5 years of software updates and hardware warranty. The Barracuda Archive System will be paid for with funds from the Capital Reserve Fund and will be reimbursed over 3 years with funds from the Technology Budget in the amount of $10,951.26 per year, starting in the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Dr. Goodin spoke about the presentation last week on the Modernized Learning Pilot Program. He stated that there were some questions asked which he did address in this past week’s board memo. Dr. Goodin stated that tonight the Board has an opportunity to move forward with entertaining a motion to move forward with this pilot program in order to answer the question of whether this is something that Spring-Ford wants to pursue on a larger scale. Dr. Goodin stated that he would like to see the board move forward with this modernized learning pilot and the management system that goes along with this.

Mr. DiBello made a motion to move forward with the Modernized Learning Pilot and purchase the computers for $75,750.00. Mrs. Heine seconded the motion.

Mr. Ciresi opened the floor up for public comment. There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Dehnert commented that he is not in favor of moving forward with the pilot because he does not believe in the concept of one to one learning which will cost the district $1 million. Mr. Dehnert stated that he does not believe this is a good place to spend the district’s money.

Mr. Ciresi stated that during the open house at the high school, one of the things he heard about from the teachers was the out of date textbooks. He added that one of the benefits from modernized learning is the availability of electronic textbooks which are the most recent and have up to date information. Mr. Ciresi felt that this is a huge investment in moving the district to the next level.

Mr. DiBello stated that this was discussed at the Curriculum and Technology Committee meeting and we are no longer talking about one to one but rather modernized learning and the tools and technology that are available for our students today. He added that this is just a step to try this pilot program out to decide if we want to move forward with this on a larger scale. Mr. DiBello spoke about the cost to purchase textbooks versus the electronic textbooks where you purchase licenses and as a result have the recent updates available.

Mr. Ciresi asked how many computers are currently in the labs at the high school and Mr. Reynolds replied roughly 500 computers in the 9-12 labs and classrooms. Mr. Ciresi asked how much the computers cost and Mr. Reynolds replied anywhere between $500 and $800. Mr. Ciresi stated that the costs would be offset as we are already paying $300,000 to $400,000 for those computers. Mr. Reynolds stated that if we were to provide every student with access to have a computer in the classroom then the district could remove some of the computers in the labs and classrooms. Mr. Reynolds added that there are a few specialized labs that could not be replaced.
Dr. Goodin commented that one of the advantages of looking at a pilot program such as what we are entertaining tonight is that we are able to look at and answer some of these questions in detail.

Mr. Jackson questioned the difference in numbers being presented last week and stated that this concerns him. Mr. Jackson spoke about the Blackboard Program and asked how the district selects a program and knows that it is the right program. Dr. Goodin stated that this program is tried and true. Mr. Jackson commented that he would like to see other technology needs met before looking into this program such as upgrading technology K-8 where it may be lagging. Dr. Goodin responded that there is a schedule for technology to be rolled out into the buildings and it is budgeted for so that the purchase of technology is not just one big bite but rather small bites over time.

Mr. DiBello spoke about the money that has been budgeted and approved for spending towards technology and stated that the district will never meet the same needs in every classroom as technology is always evolving. He stated that the district needs to keep taking steps in that evolution.

Mr. Ciresi stated that he is in favor of buying technology throughout the district and we need to take this step because without it we are falling behind.

Mr. Dehnert stated that the original presentation was on 1:1 Learning and now we are calling it Modernized Learning. He questioned how we can modernize our instruction as opposed to just the technology piece. Mr. Dehnert stated that he is confused on what we are attempting to do and he needs to see a more detailed plan and a long term plan. He stated that he is not in favor of the 1:1 initiative.

Mr. Wolf asked for clarification on the motions being considered and Dr. Goodin provided the explanation.

Mr. Jackson asked about the costs and if they were hardware costs only. Dr. Goodin replied yes that this was a very scaled down pilot plan as we were using free software and are going to self-insure the equipment. He added that the pilot would also be run with the current technology staff until we can determine what support may be needed. Mr. Jackson asked about the Blackboard Program and questioned whether we asked them about what hardware to purchase. Mr. Reynolds replied that solutions like Blackboard have been developed recently to be platform independent so they allow users to access the same content whether you are using a tablet, a laptop or a netbook which opens up the users to many possible avenues to access the system.

Discussion took place over the various devices, the similarities and the differences of the devices and the purpose of piloting the various devices.

Mr. Dehnert asked about the change in the cost for the pilot program and wondered if the cost for Phase I was still the same and Mr. Reynolds replied that this was an estimate so that the Board could have an idea of what this might develop into. Mr. Reynolds stated that after getting further into the pilot program they would be better able to itemize the components of this type of program.
Mr. Wolf asked about the difference between leasing and purchasing and how this would affect administering the program. Mr. DiBello stated that the difference is the cost provided over 4 years with a lease plus a lease fee of approximately 3% or the purchase of the equipment and paying the costs upfront. Mr. Wolf stated that this is an experiment and he is all for experiments but just wants to understand the cost and how much we are committing to this in order to find out if it works or not.

Mrs. Spletzer asked if the lease comes with an early termination clause and Mr. Reynolds replied no not for this type of hardware acquisition.

Mr. Reynolds commented that the Board could ask staff in any of the buildings if the equipment purchased could be utilized and could value be gained from it and he believes the response would be a collective yes.

Dr. Goodin stated that there is no doubt that if we move forward with this equipment for the pilot and come back and present our findings at the end of the year and decide to move forward then we will have to recost the expense. Dr. Goodin added that if the decision was made not to move forward then the equipment we had purchased at that point would be utilized and repurposed.

The motion passed 6-2 with Mr. Dehnert and Mr. Jackson voting no.

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve the purchase of 500 site licenses for Learning Management Systems for the purpose of the Modernized Learning Pilot for a cost not to exceed $5,000.00. Mrs. Heine seconded it.

The floor was opened up for public comment. There were no comments from the public.

The motion passed 6-2 with Mr. Dehnert and Mr. Jackson voting no.

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS
Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-G and Mr. Jackson seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

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

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

A. **Elizabeth Leiss**, Director of Human Resources, to attend “*PA Association of School Personnel Administrators (PASPA) Annual State Conference*” in Harrisburg, PA from February 25 through February 27, 2015. The total cost of the conference is $690.00 (registration, mileage, lodging) from the 580 account.
B. Daniel Currie, Dr. Jeanmarie Mason, and Christine Raber, Supervisors of Special Education, to attend “Eastern PA Special Education Administrators’ Conference” in Hershey, PA from October 29 through October 31, 2014. The total cost of the conference is $1,362.00 (registration, lodging) from the 580 account.

DISTRICT-WIDE

C. Dr. Marilyn Nepps, Dr. Janet Gebhardt, Wendy Taylor and Jaime LaForgia to attend the “47th Annual Keystone State Reading Association (KSRA) Conference” from October 26-29, 2014 in State College, PA. The total cost of the conference is $3,800.00 from the Curriculum and Instruction Budget (registration, mileage, lodging, meals and substitutes for Dr. Nepps and Dr. Gehhardt for the three days).

D. Sue Choi, Mary Palladino and Holly Smith to attend the “Pennsylvania Council of Teachers of Mathematics Annual Conference” on November 6 and 7, 2014 in Harrisburg, PA. The total cost of the conference is $746.00 (registration, mileage, lodging and meals). No substitutes are needed.

E. Barbara Crist and Deanne Snelling, Gifted Support Teachers, to attend “Crucial Conversations: How to Grow Your Advanced & Gifted Learners” at the Penn Center for Educational Leadership in Philadelphia, Pa on October 16, 2014 and at the Chester County Intermediate Unit in Downingtown, PA on October 17, 2014. The total cost for this conference is $567.36 (registration and mileage). No substitutes are needed.

F. Julie Caterson, Home and School Visitor, to attend “2014 Meeting the Challenge Conference: PA’s Education for Children & Youth Experiencing Homelessness Program” on October 20 and 21, 2014. The total cost for this conference is $104.16 (mileage). No substitute is needed.

UPPER PROVIDENCE

G. Debora Zelle, Certified School Nurse, to attend “Communications Network 2014 Conference” at the Doubletree in Philadelphia, PA on October 9 and 10, 2014. Mrs. Zelle is on the board of the Pottstown Health and Wellness Foundation and has been asked to attend this conference. There is no cost to the district for this conference as Mrs. Zelle is paying her registration costs and the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant is paying for the two days of substitutes.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Spletzer commented that PSBA endorses Kathy K. Swope for the office of PSBA President.

Mr. DiBello made a motion to cast the Board’s vote for Kathy K. Swope for the office of PSBA President and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

A. The Board voted for Kathy K. Swope as the candidate for the office of PSBA President-elect.
Mr. DiBello made a motion for Items B-C to cast the Board’s vote for Mark B. Miller for the office of PSBA Vice President and Otto W. Voit III for the office of PSBA Treasurer. Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

B. The Board voted for **Mark B. Miller** as the candidate for the office of PSBA Vice-President.

C. The Board voted for **Otto W. Voit III** as the candidate for the office of PSBA Treasurer.

Mrs. Spletzer made a motion to cast the Board’s vote for **Michael Faccinetto** for the office of PSBA At-Large Representative (East) Representing Regions 7,8,10,11 and 15 and Mr. DiBello seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

D. The Board voted for **Michael Faccinetto** as the candidate for the office of PSBA At-Large Representative (East) Representing Regions 7,8,10,11 and 15

Mr. Ciresi asked Mrs. Spletzer to take back to the PSBA Conference that she is attending that the district needs a voice that is heard and they really need to pressure the politicians to do what is right for education. Mrs. Spletzer stated that she will be happy to tell them this.

**NEW OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items E-F and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

E. The Board approved the Revised 2014-2015 school calendar. *(Attachment A5)*

F. The Board acknowledged the acceptance of the donation from the Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association to be used toward the purchase and installation of the remaining 2 complete SMART Classroom Presentation Systems. The total amount of the donation will be $8,286.00.

**XI. INFORMATION ITEM**

Mr. Dehnert stated that he thought a motion was needed for this so that they could fundraise for this project.

Mr. Fitzgerald asked if this was money that the district would be accepting and would be controlling. Mr. Fitzgerald said to be cautious he would make it a motion if this is money that we are going to potentially have oversight over.

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to allow Evans Elementary to raise money for this walking path and Mr. Cromley seconded it.

Mr. DiBello questioned what happens if we authorize them to raise money for a walking path and they do not raise enough money for the walking path and we made a motion for a walking path then what happens. Mr. Dehnert stated that we did not make the motion for the walking path but rather for them to go out and raise money. Mr. DiBello commented that the motion should not say walking path. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the motion is simply to give them the authority to raise money and we have no financial obligation to a path.
Mr. DiBello disputed the wording of the motion.

Mr. Ciresi asked if it could remain an information item and if enough money is raised then they come back to the board for approval to construct the walking path. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that if we are just going to limit it to the authority indicated then there is no need for a motion.

Mr. Ciresi explained that the Board has never had to give approval for a home and school to raise money but if they are doing this in order to construct a walking path and the board is not in favor of a walking path then they should not raise money for this. He asked the Board if they were supportive of putting a walking path around Evans Elementary that would be funded strictly by the home and school association. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that a motion would be needed for this.

Mr. Fitzgerald offered the following wording: “Board approval is needed to authorize the establishment of a walking path, on district property, to be funded by the Evans Home and School Association.”

Mr. Dehnert withdrew his original motion in favor of the Solicitor’s friendly amendment.

Mr. DiBello made the motion as stated above and Mrs. Spletzer seconded it.

Mr. Jackson asked about the maintenance of the walking path since it is on district property and Mr. Ciresi said yes. Mr. Dehnert said the discussion at the Property Committee meeting was that Brooke Elementary has the same type of path and there has not been any maintenance needed on it.

The motion passed 8-0.

The Board approved the establishment of a walking path, on district property, to be funded by the Evans Home and School Association.”

A. Evans Elementary School wishes to work with the Evans Home and School Association to begin fund-raising for the construction of a low maintenance walking path – ½ mile long (2640 feet) and 6 feet wide as per the plan submitted at the Property Committee meeting. The path would surround the playing field area, similar to the one at Brooke Elementary. The path will be a safe environment for the students and the community to walk/run and exercise thereby supporting the continuous efforts of encouraging a healthy active and safe lifestyle.

XII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD
There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Cromley asked Dr. Goodin to pass along to the building administrators that their building reports are appreciated and valued.

Mr. Ciresi asked that the Board send a resolution to the state representatives and the governor asking for real property tax reform. The board could vote on the resolution and Mrs. Spletzer could take it with her when she goes to the PSBA Conference.
Discussion took place on the wording and the timeline for submitting this resolution. There was conversation resolution versus letter and it was decided that a letter could be sent out from the Board to the legislators to ask for property tax reform rather than just a campaign slogan. Mr. Ciresi asked if the Board was in favor of sending a letter out on their behalf.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he would like to see the letter first before it is sent out. Mr. Ciresi asked that a letter be sent out to the Board. He added that he will be sending a letter on his own and encouraged everyone to do the same as well as make phone calls.

Mr. DiBello made a recommendation to administration with regards to the per capita tax that as we try to fix the file we make sure that any of our deceased Spring-Ford students, especially ones that we lost over the last year or two, do not receive another per capita tax bill.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Jackson seconded it. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
Board Secretary
SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

WORK SESSION

MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2014
7:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria of the High School

MISSION STATEMENT
The Spring-Ford Area School District, in cooperation with home and community, is committed to promoting academic excellence in a safe learning environment, recognizing the diverse needs of all students and empowering them to become lifelong learners and contributing citizens.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Mrs. Fern reported that students will be heading back to school next Monday, Aug. 25th. She reminded parents that they are invited to meet their child’s teachers during Back-to-School Night. She stated that she hoped all of our District parents will take advantage of this opportunity to see what their children have to look forward to in the coming school year. Mrs. Fern advised parents that they can obtain more information on each school’s Back-to-School Night by checking out the individual building’s webpage.

Mr. Ciresi announced that there was a new sound system installed in the high school and that there should be a noticeable difference in the sound quality this evening. Mr. Ciresi reported that the Board met twice for Executive Sessions regarding personnel.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY
There were no comments from the public.

II. PRESENTATIONS
Dr. Goodin gave a presentation on the Pennsylvania School Performance Profile (SPP). He provided an overview of what SPP is for those Board Members and the public who are new and may not understand exactly what this is. Dr. Goodin presented information on how Spring-Ford ranked in the state and reported that the district scored 97.70 out of a possible 100.0 which puts us tied for 12th in Pennsylvania out of the 499 school districts. Dr. Goodin next reported on the Spring-Ford Area schools that scored over 90.0 on the SPP. Those schools included Brooke, Limerick, Royersford, 5/6 Grade Center, 7th Grade Center, 8th Grade Center and the 9th Grade Center. Dr. Goodin presented the Principals of those buildings with the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Academics along with the a Proclamation from the Governor in recognition of this accomplishment. Dr. Goodin congratulated all of the schools, the staff, the administration and the school board and the students on the high district-wide SPP score.

Mr. Ciresi thanked Dr. Goodin for his presentation and thanked the Administrators who received proclamations this evening. He stated that it is a great honor to see all of the time that administrators, teachers and the community have put into making Spring-Ford what it is today. He added that to see the district tied for 9th in the state of Pennsylvania
is a humongous achievement for all involved. Mr. Ciresi challenged the administration to bump Radnor off of the number one spot in the coming years.

A. **Dr. David R. Goodin**, Superintendent of Schools, to present a report on the Spring-Ford Area School District’s School Performance Profile Ranking.

B. **Dr. David R. Goodin** to present the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Academics to the following schools: **Brooke Elementary, Limerick Elementary, Royersford Elementary, 5/6/7 Grade Centers, 8th Grade Center** and the **9th Grade Center**.

### III. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Student Rep. Report** Taylor M. Auman/Dana Ludgate

Dana welcomed everyone back from the summer break. She reported that the students are now preparing for the nearing arrival of the 2014-2015 school year which is set to commence on Monday, August 25th. Dana stated that sophomores, juniors, and seniors will be treading familiar water come next Monday while the incoming freshman must become accustomed to their new surroundings and new classmates. Dana reminded everyone that materials pertaining to all required summer work were given out at the end of last year and all work is expected to be completed upon the specified deadlines. Any additional information could be ascertained on the perspective teacher’s webpage or by emailing the teacher directly. Dana advised juniors and seniors interested in purchasing a parking permit for the school lot that they can find the necessary forms on the High School homepage within the district’s website. Similarly, any forms required for the participation in fall sports can be easily accessed via spring-ford.net. Dana concluded by saying that although the end of summer may damper the spirits of returning students, the excitement of beginning a new school year still rings throughout the student body as the school reacquaints itself with old companions and welcomes in new friends.

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

Mr. Cromley reported that the WMCTC Joint Operating Committee met on August 4th. The enrollment at the Western Center for Spring-Ford is roughly 157 with the total enrollment being 512 for the 2014-2015 school year. Mr. Cromley stated that this is roughly a reflection of a 20-25 student increase or 5%. New applicants from Spring-Ford total about 89 students. The programs of high interest for students are Protective Services, Biomedical Sciences, Cosmetology, Auto Technology, Carpentry, and Computer Information Systems. The JOC also saw a presentation on the Skills USA National Competition that was held in Kansas City. Spring-Ford had two students and an advisor travelled and competed. One student Evan Kahn, Advertising Design, finished 8th nationally and Meredith Eversol, Criminal Justice, finished 22nd nationally. Evan provided the JOC with a summation of his experience at this competition. Mr. Cromley reported on the new staff members at the Western Center, new initiatives and proposals, and the 2 sessions of summer camps that ran. Mr. Cromley reported that the JOC met in an executive session after the meeting regarding personnel matters.

Mr. DiBello questioned the enrollment for Spring-Ford saying that the numbers were once estimated to be around 200 and are now at 157. He asked if there was a reason for the drop in numbers. Mr. Cromley stated that he would check on the numbers and report back on this next week.
Mr. DiBello reported that the Finance Committee met on August 12th and the only item on the agenda was the ongoing issues with the former tax collector and new issues stemming from files that were produced by Spring-Ford. Mr. DiBello stated that in the interest of providing the most accurate recap of the meeting he would read the minutes from the Finance Committee meeting as opposed to summarizing what took place. The minutes Mr. DiBello read are attached. (See Attachment B1).

Mr. DiBello made a motion to move forward with eliminating or removing the per capita tax. Mr. Dehnert seconded the motion.

Mr. Fitzgerald advised the Board that if they vote to eliminate the per capita tax that they can never reinstate it. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the Board would need to also take public comment before voting on this.

Mr. Dehnert commented that the actual revenue from the per capita tax has been declining because the cost to collect it has continued to escalate. He added that he believes it is more of a nuisance tax than a tax that benefits the district.

Mr. Ciresi asked about the soft costs associated with collecting this tax and Mr. Anspach stated that the soft costs would still be there as the staff who worked on this are not being eliminated so their salaries would still be an expense. Mr. Anspach stated that the allocation of how staff used their time would be the only change. Mr. Ciresi asked what the equivalent millage would be if the $250,000 revenue that is collected from the per capita taxes had to be put back into the budget and Mr. DiBello replied that it would be .25%.

Mr. DiBello stated that when you talk about soft costs there is a cost for doing business and there is a soft cost that is consuming time. He stated that you can look at an hourly rate of everyone that is involved in the per capita tax. Mr. DiBello reported that Ryan Wall, Limerick Township Tax Collector, stated that it is costing the district $37,000 to collect $250,000 in net tax revenue whereas the district pays $68,000 - $70,000 to collect real estate taxes so at the end of the day there is an extremely high cost to collect per capita tax bills.

Mr. Dehnert commented that the taxpayers have gone through a lot of turmoil caused by the previous tax collector and the issue Spring-Ford had with the merging the Skyward Systems.

Mr. Pettit stated that if this is as draconian as the solicitor indicates then he believes it should be pushed back a week in order to give the Board time to see exactly what the repercussions would be. Mr. Pettit stated that this was brought up quick and basically out of the blue and a decision on something that will have this type of effect should be discussed more thoroughly.

Mrs. Heine clarified that this topic had been discussed in the Finance Committee meetings several times and was discussed last year during the budget process. Mrs. Heine agreed that the Board may want to wait until next week to vote on this.

The floor was opened up to public comment.
Julie Mullin, Upper Providence Township, reported that she is the new tax collector and stated that this tax is the definition of a nuisance tax. Mrs. Mullin reported that she has the largest of all of the district’s municipalities and has 15,069 per capita tax bills that go out. She spoke about the issues being dealt with and the volume of phone calls, emails and walk-ins that she deals with. She stated that the district pays her for the original distribution of the per capita tax bills and then in turn pays again for every time she has to address issues with the taxpayers by cleaning up the mistakes that are made over and over again. She spoke about the expenses compared to the amount of revenue received as opposed to the large real estate tax check that businesses submit.

Michael Spletzer, Royersford Borough, commented that just because someone screwed something up and it is lot of work does not mean it is something that we should get rid of it. He added that to spend $38,000 - $40,000 to bring in $200,000 by any business measure is a good return on the investment. Mr. Spletzer stated that if the tax collector needs help then maybe we should take some of that revenue and provide her with help. Mr. Spletzer stated that as more and more apartment units go up, it seems fair to him that there should be a per capita tax so that the educational costs are spread not just across real estate taxes but also to those who live here and do not own. Mr. Spletzer suggested possibly raising the per capita tax rather than the real estate tax. He urged the board to do a financial analysis before making a decision on this.

Mr. Dehnert asked if the amount collected for per capita taxes is limited by law and Mr. Fitzgerald replied yes and he believes the district is currently collecting the maximum.

Mr. DiBello stated that he does not disagree with the statements that have been made but it is the costs associated to collecting. Mr. DiBello commented that people who live in apartment buildings are paying taxes as landlords push the real estate tax bill down to the tenants. Mrs. Heine added that the tax collectors are not getting the updated data when renters move out. Mrs. Mullin stated that Mrs. Romer, the Royersford Borough Tax Collector, indicated that unless court ordered landlords are not responsible for giving that information over when tenants vacate.

Mr. Anspach spoke about using the earned income tax files as the basis for the per capita tax bills. He stated that this is something that should be given consideration.

Mr. Dehnert asked what the average real estate tax bill was and Mr. Anspach replied that off the top of his head he does not know.

Mr. Anspach spoke about his reservations with eliminating the per capita tax and the limited means the district has for collecting revenue.

The motion failed 2-7 with Mr. Dehnert and Mr. DiBello voting yes and Mr. Jackson, Mr. Wolf, Mr. Cromley, Mr. Pettit, Mrs. Heine and Mrs. Spletzer voting no.

Mr. DiBello stated that he assumed the Board would soon be getting a detailed report showing the $250,000 that he feels we are not getting. He commented that he believes this needs to be examined again.

Mr. Ciresi asked for a Board meeting presentation that has a detailed report. He stated that after seeing a report this could possibly come to the floor again for a vote. Mr. Ciresi added
that the Board needs to see a true plan that shows number by number where the money is going. He asked for the presentation sooner rather than later and questioned when the Board would have to act on this if they wanted to institute it for next year. Mr. Fitzgerald replied that most districts that do decide to eliminate this tax generally do it as part of the budget process so it could be done in June. Mr. Ciresi stated that he does not want to wait until June and Mr. Fitzgerald said he thinks the board would want to build it into the budget earlier in the process.

Mr. Anspach suggested that any decision made should be done no later than November because the municipalities have a calendar year budget and this could affect their budget as well.

Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Anspach to get the Board a report sooner rather than later either by next week or the next work session meeting.

Dr. Goodin commented that lost in the conversation is that we need to develop a better per capita tax file to avoid the problems that have occurred in the past.

Mr. Ciresi stated that the Board does need to see what the soft costs really are and how many hours it took the staff to do this in a comprehensive report.

Mr. DiBello commented that we keep throwing around $250,000 and at the end of the day that is not what we are collecting.

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

Mrs. Heine reported that the Curriculum/Technology Committee met on August 13th and in the technology area the committee was provided information on how the 250 SMART Classrooms from the 2014-15 funds would be allocated per building based on the current technology in the building. Mrs. Heine stated that this past year only $40,000 of the $250,000 was spent as last year was a pilot year for interactive projectors. The pilot is coming to an end and the remaining $210,000 allocation will be completed based on the result of the pilot. Mrs. Heine reported that on the curriculum side most of the meeting was spent discussing modernized learning or the one to one initiative. The discussion was on the various options for implementing a plan. The Curriculum and Technology Committee will continue to meet and present a formal presentation to the entire board in the very near future. Mrs. Heine reported on the various initiatives that both departments worked on over the summer months. The Curriculum Department worked on such things as elementary science guidelines for grades K-4, 10th grade language arts core alignment, Project Max training, SLO work continued as well as differentiated learning. The Technology Department worked on upgrading the Point of Sales Systems for all schools, the refresh of over 900 computers, iPad lockboxes were delivered to five buildings for grades K-1, servers were upgraded as well as the core network.

**Personnel**  
**Bernard Pettit**  (As Needed)

Mr. Pettit reported that the Personnel Committee met on August 12th with the Teacher Union Representatives. The union left with an informal proposal and the Personnel Committee is still waiting on a response.
PSBA Liaison  Kelly J. Spletzer
Mrs. Spletzer reported that she will be attending the 2014 PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference on behalf of the district and that she will serve as the PSBA Voting Delegate.

Asst. Supt. Rpt.  Dr. Allyn J. Roche
Dr. Roche shared that he continues monitor school and classroom enrollments for the remainder of this week and into the start of the school year. The goal continues to be to have classes that allow teachers to meet the needs of all the students in the class by striving to ensure that class size falls within guidelines. He reported that in reviewing the class sizes, he is mindful of the age of the students, the make-up of the class including specific needs of students and programs and balancing the challenge to be efficient with the overall staffing process. Dr. Roche reported on important dates coming up for students and parents in the district. He added that the dates and time for back to school activities are posted on the district website and on the individual school webpages. Dr. Roche advised everyone that the start of the school year is a great time to refresh and/or download the Spring-Ford Phone App. He reported that the Spring-Ford Phone App is a great way to stay connected to the District and have quick access to key information, phone numbers, e-mail address and to the website. He added that one of the best features of the Spring-Ford Phone App is the push notifications. If you are new to using the phone App or your child is in a new school, don’t forget to sign-up to receive Push Notifications on events and key information about your school or your child’s activity, club or sport. Rumor has it that the Spring-Ford Phone App is the fastest way to find out about any school delays or school closings. The Spring-Ford phone App is available free for both the iPhone and Android phones.

Mr. Dehnert asked what the kindergarten enrollment looked like and Dr. Roche replied that as of last week there were 470 kindergarten students. Mr. Ciresi asked for a full report next week on the enrollment numbers.

Mr. Cromley asked if most kindergarten teachers remained where they were from last year and Dr. Roche replied yes as there was only one reduction in one classroom section in one of the elementary schools.

Solicitor’s Report  Mark Fitzgerald
There was no report.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
There were no questions or comments.

A. Administration recommends approval of the May 27, 2014 Board Meeting minutes.  
(Attachment A1)

B. Administration recommends approval of the June 16, 2014 Work Session minutes. 
(Attachment A2)

C. Administration recommends approval of the June 23, 2014 Board Meeting minutes.  
(Attachment A3)

V. PERSONNEL
There were no questions or comments.
A. Resignations


3. Patricia J. Jackson, Custodian, 7th Grade Center; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: July 14, 2014.


B. Leaves of Absence


5. Jean M. Taddeo, Spanish Teacher, 8th Grade Center; for a sabbatical leave of absence per Board Policy. Effective: August 19, 2014 through January 22, 2015.

C. Changes of Status

1. Carol J. Ganister, Executive Secretary, District Office; to Data and Reporting Specialist, Senior High School – 9th Grade Center. Compensation is set at $57,500.00 with benefits. Effective: September 4, 2014.
2. **Laura W. Piland**, Instructional Assistant, Upper Providence Elementary; to the 10-month Secretary, 7th Grade Center replacing Lorraine R. Moyer who resigned. Compensation has been set at $17.00 (degree rate) with benefits per the Secretarial Plan. Effective: August 19, 2014.

3. **Dana Rosenblum**, Part-time (.50) Special Education Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center; to full-time Special Education Teacher at 5/6th Grade Center. Compensation has been set at MS, Step 1, $44,500.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

4. **Wendy P. Taylor**, Part-time (.50) Reading Specialist, Royersford Elementary School; to Instructional Coach-English Language Arts, Upper Providence Elementary. Compensation is set at MS, Step 12, $80,300.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

5. **Lisa Zink**, Part-time (.50) Custodian, 7th Grade Center; to Full-time Custodian, Senior High School replacing Douglas A. Keck who resigned. Compensation has been set at $19.22/hour with benefits per the Custodial Plan. Effective: August 26, 2014.

D. **Professional Employees**

1. **Christian D. Fusco**, Deaf/Hard of Hearing Specialist, Upper Providence Elementary. Compensation will be set at BS+18, Step 12, $63,400.00 prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: October 6, 2014.

2. **Jamie LaForgia**, Instructional Coach – Secondary English, Senior High School. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 5, $49,300.00 prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

E. **Temporary Professional Employees**

1. **Melody P. Bish**, School Psychologist, 7th Grade Center; replacing Cheri Krell-Morris who retired. Compensation will be set at MS+30, Step 1, $51,000.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: July 22, 2014.

2. **Emily A. Beiter**, Special Education - Learning Support Teacher, Limerick Elementary. Compensation will be set at BS, Step 2, $44,400.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

3. **Lauren E. Duffy**, Math Teacher, Senior High School; replacing Mary C. Palladino who transferred. Compensation will be set at BS, Step 1, $43,200.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

4. **Katherine Gullo**, Elementary Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 2, $45,700.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.
5. Katherine L. Helm, Part-time (.50) Special Education - Learning Support Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 2, $45,700.00 prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 25, 2014.

6. Jennifer M. Johnson, Science Teacher, 8th Grade Center; replacing Dr. David G. Phillips who resigned. Compensation will be set at BS+18, Step 1, $43,500.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

7. Kenya H. Kistler, School Psychologist, Limerick Elementary School. Compensation will be set at MS+18, Step 1, $49,000.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

8. Patricia A. Kolodziejski, Elementary Teacher, Spring City; replacing Amanda L. Dolloff who resigned. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 3, $46,900.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

9. Daniel S. Lenko, Mathematics Teacher, Senior High School. Compensation will be set at BS, Step 2, $44,400.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

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12. Laura L. Tollefson, English Teacher, Senior High School; replacing Jillian Hargrove who resigned. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 2, $45,700.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

F. Support Staff Employees


2. Kathleen E. McNeill, College Career Coordinator, Senior High School. Compensation will be set at $45,000.00, prorated with benefits. Effective: August 19, 2014.


4. Beth C. Morello, Instructional Assistant, Senior High School. Compensation will be set at $17.36/hour (degree rate) per the Instructional Assistants’ Plan. Effective: August 19, 2014.
G. **Support Staff Substitute**

1. **Raymond P. Hibbs** Custodian
2. **Melinda K. Fink** Cafeteria

H. Administration recommends approval of the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2014-2015 school year. *(Attachment A4)*

I. Administration recommends approval of the following Special Education Teachers to be hired for the 2014 Extended School Year – Professional Staff including: Fast Forward, Speech & Language Services, and Tutor Programs. Compensation will be set at $30.00 per hour plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Funding will be from 2013-2014 IDEA funds.

1. **Brenda A. Haydt**

J. **Personnel Information Items**
The individuals listed below have completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as temporary professional employees and are, therefore, entitled to tenure status:

1. **Alyssa M. Bommentre** Mathematics Teacher Senior High School
2. **Karen F. Parker** Chemistry Teacher Senior High School

VI. **FINANCE**
There were no questions or comments.

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

B. Checks:

1. **Weekly Checks prior to Work Session**
   
   **JUNE**
   - Check No. 153964 – 154121 $513,920.41
   - ACH 131400622 - 131400680 $6,584.26
   
   **JULY**
   - Check No. 154122 – 154340 $2,069,728.09
   - ACH 141500002 – 141500030 $2,995.95
   
   **AUGUST**
   - Check No. 154341 – 154491 $1,683,803.42
   - ACH 141500031 – 141500033 $1,866.98

2. **Athletic Fund**
   
   **JULY**
   - Check No. 307137 – 307171 $46,419.50
   
   **AUGUST**
   - Check No. 307172 – 307183 $4,637.35
C. Administration recommends approval of the following independent contracts:

1. **Lisa Kowalski – Norristown, PA.** Provide instructional reading and math services for a special needs student as part of the student’s Extended School Year Program as per the IEP. Services will be provided for a total of 60 hours at a rate of $50.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed $3,000.00.

2. **The Vanguard School – Paoli, PA.** Provide Extended School Year services for 3 students as per their IEP’s. Services will be provided for 25 days at a rate of $7,360.00 per student. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget – IDEA Funds and shall not exceed $22,080.00.

3. **The Vanguard School – Paoli, PA.** Provide educational and related services for 2 special needs students during the 2014-2015 school year as per their IEP’s. Services will be provided for 180 days for a total of $49,115.00 per student. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $98,230.00.

4. **The Devereaux Foundation – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Extended School Year Services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 35 days at a rate of $210.00 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed $7,350.00.

5. **Spring Valley YMCA – Limerick, PA.** Provide supervised swimming for a total of 10 sessions during the 2014-2015 school year for special needs students as per their IEP’s. Services will be provided at a cost of $35.00 per session. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $350.00.

6. **Personal Health Care, Inc. – Valley Forge, PA.** Provide Nursing Services during the 2014-2015 school year for a special needs student while being transported to an approved private school. Services will be provided for 5 days per week for 4 hours per day at a rate of $44.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $31,680.00.

7. **Deaf-Hearing Communication Centre – Swarthmore, PA.** Provide professional sign language interpreting for meetings and events within the school during the 2014-2015 school year. Services will be provided for a total number of hours not to exceed 24 hours. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $1,481.00.

8. **Cristaldo Interpreters – Blue Bell, PA.** Provide Portuguese Interpreting Services for meetings and events within the school during the 2014-2015 school year. Services will be provided for a total number of hours not to exceed 12 hours. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $1,470.00.

9. **Ian Ash, Music Therapy Resources, LLC – Bryn Mawr, PA.** Provide Music Therapy during the 2014-2015 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 46 hours at a rate of $75.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $3,450.00.
10. **Maureen O’Brien – West Chester, PA.** Provide specialized reading instruction for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 216 hours at a rate of $75.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $16,200.00.

11. **Buxmont Academy – Pottstown, PA.** Provide educational and related services for the 2014-2015 school year. Services will be provided at a rate of $158.89 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $28,600.00.

12. **Joy Brewster and Associates - LaGrangeville, NY.** Provide Applied Behavioral Analysis Training in the home during the 2014-2015 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Direct intervention services will be provided for 528 hours at a rate of $35.00 per hour for a total of $18,480.00. In addition 12 hours per month of Applied Behavioral Analysis consult services will be provided at a rate of $95.00 per hour for a total of $11,400.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed a total of $29,880.00.

13. **New Story School – Wyomissing, PA.** Provide educational and related services during the 2014-2015 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $105,300.00.

14. **Creative Health Services – Spring City, PA.** Provide SAP Liaison to assistance including the provision of consultant services, student assessments and parent assistance based on the Student Assistance Program (SAP) referrals and student support groups for the 2014-2015 school year. Funding will be paid from the Social Services Budget and shall not exceed a total of $11,000.00.

15. **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 2014-2015 school year. In addition, services will include Life Skills Training, SAP Intervention Groups, SAP Core Team/Screenings, Teen Intervene and Alcohol/Tobacco/Drug Use Prevention Education. Funding shall be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed $15,000.00.

16. **Duane DeWire – Northumberland, PA.** Provide the Spring-Ford Area High School Marching Band with current state-of-the-art visual design that will stage the music and color of the band for the 2014-2015 school year. Funding will be paid from the 2014-2015 High School Extra-Curricular Fund and shall not exceed $5,498.00.

17. **Thom Stetcher & Associates – Malvern, PA.** Facilitate training for teachers in creating lesson plans and activities related to Evans Elementary’s ProSocial Pledge and Theme for the 2014-2015 school year. Funding will be paid from the Evans Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed $2,900.00.

18. **Thom Stetcher & Associates – Malvern, PA.** Provide Resiliency training for staff and a student program for students in grades 1-4 at Royersford Elementary. Funding will be paid from the Royersford Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed $2,000.00.
19. Thom Stetcher & Associates – Malvern, PA. Facilitate training for teachers in conjunction with Upper Providence Elementary’s Unity Day. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed $2,000.00.

20. Discovery Education – Silver Spring, MD. Provide 2 full days of Professional Development services through an Elementary Language Arts PA Core Academy and a Math PA Core Academy for administrators, reading specialists and instructional coaches. These academies will provide a strong foundation for understanding instructional shifts necessary to properly implement PA Core curriculum. Funding will be paid from the Curriculum and Instruction Budget and shall not exceed $5,000.00.

D. Administration recommends approval to enter into an independent contract with a parent to provide transportation during the 2014-2015 school year for their child to and from the New Story School in Wyomissing, PA at the IRS approved rate. Funding will be paid from the transportation budget and shall not exceed $13,507.00.

E. Administration recommends approval of a confidential settlement agreement and release agreement #2014-04 with the parents of a special needs student and the authorization of payment of Extended School Year services in the amount of $1,400.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget.

F. Administration recommends approval to close the Family and Consumer Sciences Account from the 8th Grade Center Student Activity Accounts.

G. Administration recommends approval to enter into a contract with the Delaware Valley Consortium for Excellence & Equity (DVCEE) for the 2014-2015 school year. The DVCEE is a collaborative network of metropolitan school districts in PA, DE and NJ that have committed to learn and work together to support, nurture the school and life success of all of their students. The membership fee for 2014-2015 is $13,000.00 and will be paid from the Superintendent’s Budget.

VII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM
There were no questions or comments.

A. Administration recommends approval of the 2014-2015 student-funded exchange program with the Coláiste Chiaráin High School in Limerick, Ireland. This exchange provides a 2 week opportunity between students at Spring-Ford Area High School and students at Coláiste Chiaráin High School. Dates to be determined. (Thanksgiving/Spring Vacation).

B. Administration recommends approval 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 2014-2015 school year is $5,400.00 and will be paid from the Curriculum and Instruction Budget.

VIII. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS
There were no questions or comments.
The following individuals are recommended for attendance at the following conferences/workshops:

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<tr>
<th>CODE: 580 Account: Conference/Training, registration, food, and accommodations</th>
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**DISTRICT-WIDE**

A. **Kelly J. Spletzer**, School Board Member, to attend the “2014 PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference” from October 21 through October 24, 2014 at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. Mrs. Spletzer will also be serving as the Voting Delegate for the district at the PSBA Delegate Assembly Meeting. Funding will be paid from the School Board Budget. The total cost for this conference is $1,210.44 (registration, lodging, mileage and meals).

B. **Richard Grove**, System Technician, to attend the “CISCO CCENT/CCNA Training Camp” in Bushkill, PA from September 15 through September 19, 2014. Funding will be paid from the Technology Budget. The total cost for this conference is $3,351.40 (registration, mileage, and lodging).

C. **Sharon Hohenstein**, Learning Support Teacher, to attend the “Wilson Certification Level 1 Year Long Program”. The first meeting for this program will be held on September 16, 2014 at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit with future meeting dates TBD. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget. The total cost for this year long program is $2,070.16 (registration, mileage and a one day substitute). There will be additional costs incurred for a substitute for Ms. Hohenstein as the future meeting dates are determined.

**IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**X. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. McDaniel provided information on the number of athletes for high school fall sports in grades 10-12 which totaled 480. He next reported that there are 150 band members. Mr. McDaniel stated that once the 9th grade students report that the fall sports numbers will go up to approximately 545. Mr. McDaniel reported that for grades 6, 7, and 8 that due to the federally mandated heat acclamation by-law the athletes had to spend 3 hours per day for 3 days practicing before they can participate in any full contact practices. He reminded everyone of picture day for all high school fall sports teams. Mr. McDaniel reported that this is the 1st year that PIAA has required all sports in District 1 to use a power rating system for post season seating and entries. Mr. McDaniel stated that this system will give a true indicator of who should be in and who should be out. Mr. McDaniel reported that season tickets for football are $22.00 for adults and $12.00 for students for the reserve section. He added that there is no Thanksgiving Day game and Homecoming will take place on October 18th with the football team taking on Pope John Paul. Mr. McDaniel reported that season tickets...
tickets for the boys’ and girls’ soccer and field hockey games are $22.00 and students $12.00 for all games. Girls’ volleyball tickets are $27.00 for adults and $18.00 for students. Mr. McDaniel reported that tickets are available in the Athletic Office. Mr. McDaniel reminded senior citizens aged 62 or older that they can take advantage of the district’s Senior Citizen Gold Card which gets them into all sporting events, band competitions and theater events free of charge. He advised anyone interested to bring their driver’s license to the district office and fill out an application for the card. The only requirement is that you must be 62 years of age or older and a resident of the district. Mr. McDaniel reported that the card is good for regular season sporting events and not playoff games.

Mr. DiBello asked Mr. McDaniel to mention about how the football season ends and there is almost a 4 week gap. Mr. McDaniel reported that the Thanksgiving game has been discussed for a few years with regards to what to do with it. Mr. McDaniel said this year when the season ends there is almost a 4 week gap until the Thanksgiving Day football game and if you are not in the playoffs that is a very long layoff for teams. Mr. McDaniel stated that we are regulated by the PIAA schedule as far as begin and end dates so there is a 4 week gap between the last game and what would have been the Thanksgiving Day game so that is why the game was moved to an earlier week in the schedule.

XI. ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Cromley made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary
On August 25, 2014 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Willard D. Cromley, Bernard F. Pettit and Kelly J. Spletzer
Region II: Dawn R. Heine, Clinton L. Jackson and Todd R. Wolf
Region III: Mark P. Dehnert and Thomas J. DiBello
Presiding Officer: Joseph P. Ciresi
Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin
Business Manager: Timothy Anspach
Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.
Student Reps.: Taylor M. Auman and Dana K. Ludgate

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Mr. Ciresi announced that the Board met in an executive session regarding personnel issues.

Mrs. Fern encouraged community members to make this new school year the year they volunteer within the Spring-Ford Area School District. She stated that the school district values the unique contributions made by parents, guardians and community volunteers to the educational and extracurricular programs of the school district. Mrs. Fern invited anyone interested in finding out about the many wonderful volunteer opportunities within our schools as well as the requirements for volunteering to visit the Community section of the district’s website.

Mr. Ciresi welcomed everyone on this first day of school for students.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY
Mike Leonard, Royersford Borough, stated that he is the Borough Manager and he does not come to meetings unless someone tries to get into the Borough of Royersford’s pocket. He commented that no one notified the Borough of Royersford that the board was going to do this. Mr. Leonard felt that the board should have notified the Borough of this item. He added that this is money out of the Borough’s pocket and they do not have a big budget. Mr. Leonard stated that he did not know how much money the district would be losing over this but $250,000 might be a drop in the bucket to the district but to the Borough, even if it is $10,000, that it is a lot to them and they do not want to raise the taxes for the residents of Royersford Borough. He asked the board not to do this.

Mr. Ciresi clarified that Mr. Leonard’s comments were in regard to the per capita taxes.
II. PRESENTATION

Dr. Goodin introduced the Special Education Supervisors to make presentation to McNutt Family on behalf of Rita’s Water Ice’s sponsorship of Ice for Autism which benefits the Spring-Ford Area School District.

Christine Raber stated that she, Dan Currie and Dr. Jean Mason, who was not able to be here this evening, stand in humble appreciation to the McNutt Family and the Ice for Autism Program. Mrs. Raber reported that the Ice for Autism Program has helped purchase items for the Special Education Program such as the “Squeeze Machine” and “Work Assembly Boxes” which they brought with them this evening. Mrs. Raber commented that the “Squeeze Machine” is a very calming to students who are in the Autistic Support classes and compared it to the calming effect of a hug. Mrs. Raber also reported that the funds donated have supported the upgrades to the sensory room, funded teachers to attend conferences, and purchased additional iPads with applications that the students can use. Mrs. Raber thanked the McNutt Family and read the list of sponsors who contributed to the Ice for Autism Program and are the reason for the significant contribution being presented here this evening.

Beverly McNutt and the McNutt Family expressed thanks for the opportunity to come here this evening. Mrs. McNutt stated that seeing some of the equipment that was brought here this evening is one of the reasons how she and her husband, Greg, got the idea for starting the Ice for Autism Program. Mrs. McNutt reported that the Ice for Autism Program has contributed nearly $30,000 over the past 7 years for the special needs fund and was created by her family and the Spring-Ford Education Foundation. Mrs. McNutt stated that they look forward to continuing their Ice for Autism campaign so that they can strengthen the goals of each and every student in the district and they thanked the district for allowing them to continue this very special endeavor. A check in the amount of $4,350.00 was presented to the Ice for Autism Fund.

Mr. Ciresi thanked the McNutt Family and urged everyone in the district to support Rita’s Water Ice both in Collegeville and Royersford. He added that Rita’s Water Ice has always been supporters of the district not on through the Ice for Autism Program but at many events where you will see Rita’s Water Ice being served such as the SNAP Post Prom event. He stated that it is important for everyone to support businesses in the community that support the district.

A. Daniel Currie, Dr. Jeanmarie Mason, and Christine Raber, Special Education Supervisors, to make a presentation to Beverly McNutt on behalf of Rita’s Water Ice sponsorship of the “Ice for Autism” Fundraiser which benefits the Spring-Ford Area School District’s Autism Program.

Dr. Goodin reported that his presentation on PSSA Scores will be postponed until September due to incomplete data.
B. **Dr. David R. Goodin**, Superintendent of Schools, to present the 2013-2014 PSSA Scores for the Spring-Ford Area School District.

Mr. Anspach stated that the purpose of the presentation is due to a motion on the agenda to do away with the per capita tax. Mr. Anspach commented that this is not something that can be taken lightly as there are limited resources for revenue. Mr. Anspach stated that tonight the presentation will cover four points; what the per capita tax is, the amount of revenue generated and the cost to collect it, the pros and cons of eliminating the tax and what potential alternatives may exist.

Mr. Francella gave background on the per capita tax and stated that the tax is basically broken down into 2 sections, Section 679 and Act 511. Mr. Dehnert asked what years the two laws were put into place and Mr. Francella replied that he did not know this. Mr. DiBello asked that it be clarified that whatever it is that the school district decides to do with regards to the per capita taxes that the two municipalities; Royersford Borough and Spring City Borough, can still continue to impose this tax. Mr. Francella confirmed this was correct and that the district’s decision had no impact on these municipalities other than them having to come up with their own file for per capita taxes. Mr. Francella next reported on exoneration eligibility from the per capita tax.

Mrs. Romer, the Royersford Tax Collector, spoke from her seat but since she was not at the microphone her comments could not be heard.

Mr. Francella presented information on the per capita net revenue for 2010-2011, 2011-2012 and 2012-2013. Mr. Ciresi asked where the Business Office salaries were on this slide being shown and Mr. Francella stated that they did not have them included as they are still in the midst of calculating them.

There was discussion and disagreement over the content of the presentation, what the board felt they had requested be included and what Mr. Anspach understood was to be presented as well as the timeline for the presentation of this information.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he felt the understanding was that the discussion would be taken back to the September Finance Committee meeting and not be discussed again this week.

Mrs. Romer again spoke out from her seat in the audience and her comments could not be heard.

Mr. DiBello stated that the complete information is needed and he requested that the information be compiled and presented to the Finance Committee meeting for review. Mr. DiBello stated that he believes that the net revenue is going to be around $150,000.

Mr. DiBello made a motion to table the vote on the elimination of the per capita taxes until all of the data could be presented. Mr. Cromley seconded the motion. The motion passed 9-0.

C. **Timothy Anspach**, Business Manager, and **David Francella**, Assistant Business Manager, to provide a presentation on Per Capita Taxes.
III. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Superintendent’s Report  Dr. David R. Goodin
Dr. Goodin stated that he would like to begin his report with a brief video from last week’s convocation and the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge. Dr. Goodin next introduced the “Happy” video that was shown during the convocation assembly. Dr. Goodin thanked everyone who participated in the filming of the videos especially Steve Bonetz and his crew as well as the support staff. Dr. Goodin stated that there are several new employees on the agenda for approval this evening and he asked those that were present to step forward as he introduced them.

Solicitor’s Report  Mark Fitzgerald
There was no report.

Personnel  Bernard F. Pettit
Mr. Pettit reported that the Personnel Committee met and an offer was presented to the teachers which was rejected and as a result they will be going to fact finding.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. The Board approved the May 27, 2014 Board Meeting minutes. (Attachment A1)
B. The Board approved the June 16, 2014 Work Session minutes. (Attachment A2)
C. The Board approved the June 23, 2014 Board Meeting minutes. (Attachment A3)

V. PERSONNEL
Mr. Cromley asked that Item E#8 and E#13 be separated.

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A – J, not including E8 and E13, and Mrs. Heine seconded it.

Mr. Cromley commented on E8 and E13 saying he would like to call on the Personnel Committee to hold a meeting to develop guidelines for fiscal management of our entry level salaries and benefits for new employees. Mr. Cromley stated that he is not voting against the individuals for Items E8 and E13. He stated that it is important for the School Board and Administration to share ideas and rationales regarding new employees.

The motion for Items A-J, not including E8 and E13, passed 9-0.

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items E8 and E13 and Mr. DiBello seconded it. The motion passed 8-1 with Mr. Cromley voting no.

A. Resignations


3. **Patricia J. Jackson**, Custodian, 7th Grade Center; for the purpose of retirement. Effective: July 14, 2014.


New Resignation


**B. Leaves of Absence**


New Leave of Absence

C. Changes of Status

1. Carol J. Ganister, Executive Secretary, District Office; to Data and Reporting Specialist, Senior High School – 9th Grade Center. Compensation is set at $57,500.00 with benefits. Effective: September 2, 2014.

2. Laura W. Piland, Instructional Assistant, Upper Providence Elementary; to the 10-month Secretary, 7th Grade Center replacing Lorraine R. Moyer who resigned. Compensation has been set at $17.00 (degree rate) with benefits per the Secretarial Plan. Effective: August 19, 2014.

3. Dana Rosenblum, Part-time (.50) Special Education Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center; to full-time Special Education Teacher at 5/6th Grade Center. Compensation has been set at MS, Step 1, $44,500.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

4. Wendy P. Taylor, Part-time (.50) Reading Specialist, Royersford Elementary School; to Instructional Coach-English Language Arts, Upper Providence Elementary. Compensation is set at MS, Step 12, $80,300.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

5. Lisa Zink, Part-time (.50) Custodian, 7th Grade Center; to Full-time Custodian, Senior High School replacing Douglas A. Keck who resigned. Compensation has been set at $19.22/hour with benefits per the Custodial Plan. Effective: August 26, 2014.

D. Professional Employees

1. Christian D. Fusco, Deaf/Hard of Hearing Specialist, Upper Providence Elementary. Compensation will be set at BS+18, Step 12, $63,400.00 prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: October 6, 2014.

2. Jaime LaForgia, Instructional Coach – Secondary English, Senior High School. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 5, $49,300.00 prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

New Professional Employee

3. Angela Allen, Special Education - Emotional Support Teacher, Upper Providence Elementary. Compensation will be set at M, Step 4, $48,100, prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: TBD.

E. Temporary Professional Employees

1. Melody P. Bish, School Psychologist, Senior High School; replacing Cheri Krell-Morris who retired. Compensation will be set at MS+30, Step 1, $51,000.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: July 22, 2014.

2. Emily A. Beiter, Special Education - Learning Support Teacher, Limerick Elementary. Compensation will be set at BS, Step 2, $44,400.00 with benefits.
per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

3. **Lauren E. Duffy**, Math Teacher, Senior High School 10-12 Center; replacing Mary C. Palladino who had a change of assignment. Compensation will be set at BS, Step 1, $43,200.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

4. **Katherine Gullo**, Elementary Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 2, $45,700.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

5. **Katherine L. Helm**, Part-time (.50) Special Education - Learning Support Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 2, $45,700.00 prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 25, 2014.

6. **Jennifer M. Johnson**, Science Teacher, 8th Grade Center; replacing Dr. David G. Phillips who resigned. Compensation will be set at BS+18, Step 1, $43,500.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

7. **Kenya H. Kistler**, School Psychologist, Limerick Elementary School. Compensation will be set at MS+18, Step 1, $49,000.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

8. **Patricia A. Kolodziejski**, Elementary Teacher, Spring City; replacing Amanda L. Dolloff who resigned. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 3, $46,900.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

9. **Daniel S. Lenko**, Mathematics Teacher, Senior High School. Compensation will be set at BS, Step 2, $44,400.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

10. **Joseph R. Perry**, Music Teacher, 8th Grade Center; replacing Jessica L. Pennington who resigned. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 1, $44,500.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

11. **Johannah M. Timbario**, Part-time (.60) Speech Therapist, 5/6th Grade Center. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 5, $49,300.00 prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

12. **Laura L. Tollefson**, English Teacher, Senior High School; replacing Jillian Hargrove who resigned. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 2, $45,700.00 with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

**New Temporary Professional Employees**

13. **Anna E. Kessler**, Kindergarten Teacher, Limerick Elementary (AM) and Evans Elementary (PM); replacing Megan Bittle who had a change of assignment. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 3, $46,900.00, with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.
14. **Nicholas J. Latch**, Elementary Teacher, Evans Elementary; replacing David Susek who had a change of assignment. Compensation will be set at BS, Step 1, 43,200.00, with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 19, 2014.

15. **Megan Stauffer**, Part-time (.50) Special Education Teacher – LS, 5/6th Center; replacing Dana Rosenblum who had a change of status. Compensation will be set at BS, Step 1, $43,200.00, prorated, with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: August 25, 2014.

F. **Support Staff Employees**

1. **Brian R. Fisher**, Instructional Assistant Senior High School. Compensation will be set at $17.36/hour (degree rate) per the Instructional Assistants’ Plan. Effective: August 19, 2014.

2. **Kathleen E. McNeill**, College Career Coordinator, Senior High School. Compensation will be set at $45,000.00, prorated with benefits. Effective: August 19, 2014.

3. **Kelsey A. Metzler**, Instructional Assistant, 5/6th Grade Center. Compensation will be set at $17.36/hour (degree rate) per the Instructional Assistants’ Plan. Effective: August 19, 2014.

4. **Beth C. Morello**, Instructional Assistant, Senior High School. Compensation will be set at $17.36/hour (degree rate) per the Instructional Assistants’ Plan. Effective: August 19, 2014.

New Support Staff Employees

5. **Lori Blackburn**, Executive Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent, District Office. Compensation will be set at $22.82/hour with benefits. Effective: September 8, 2014.

6. **Kathryn Calvert**, Instructional Assistant, Upper Providence Elementary; replacing Laura Piland who had a change of status. Compensation will be set at $17.36/hour (degree rate) as per the Instructional Assistants’ Plan. Effective: August 25, 2014.

7. **Danielle Cushman**, Instructional Assistant, Limerick Elementary. Compensation will be set at $17.36/hour (degree rate) as per the Instructional Assistants’ Plan. Effective: September 8, 2014.

8. **Thomas L. O’Connor**, Instructional Assistant, Spring City Elementary; replacing Danitza Lerten-Martin who had a change of assignment. Compensation will be set at $17.36/hour (degree rate) per the Instructional Assistants’ Plan. Effective: August 25, 2014.

G. **Support Staff Substitute**

1. **Raymond P. Hibbs**  Custodian
2. **Melinda K. Fink**  Cafeteria

H. The Board approved the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2014-2015 school year. *(Attachment A4)*

I. The Board approved the following Special Education Teachers to be hired for the 2014 Extended School Year – Professional Staff including: Fast Forward, Speech & Language Services, and Tutor Programs. Compensation will be set at $30.00 per hour plus benefits (FICA & Retirement). Funding will be from 2013-2014 IDEA funds.

1. **Brenda A. Haydt**

J. **Personnel Information Items**

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

1. **Alyssa M. Bommentre**  Mathematics Teacher  Senior High School
2. **Karen F. Parker**  Chemistry Teacher  Senior High School

VI. **FINANCE**

*New Additions since the Work Session*

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-Q including addendum C23 and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. The Board approved next month’s payroll, taxes, all benefits, transportation contracts, IU contracts, Vo-Tech payments, debt service payments, utility bills, maintenance agreements, copier leases, equipment maintenance, Federal grants, insurance, and discounted invoices.

B. Checks:

1. **Weekly Checks prior to Work Session**

   **JUNE**
   - Check No. 153964 – 154121  $ 513,920.41
   - ACH 131400622 - 131400680  $ 6,584.26

   **JULY**
   - Check No. 154122 – 154340  $2,069,728.09
   - ACH 141500002 – 141500030  $ 2,995.95

   **AUGUST**
   - Check No. 154341 – 154491  $1,683,803.42
   - ACH 141500031 – 141500033  $ 1,866.98
2. Athletic Fund

**JUNE**
Check No. 307137 – 307171 $ 46,419.50

**JULY**
Check No. 307172 – 307183 $ 4,637.35

3. *Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting*

**AUGUST**
Check No. 154492 – 154522 $ 169,877.96

4. *Board Checks held for Approval*

*Check No. 154523 – 154586 $ 96,503.43
*ACH 141500034 – 141500051 $ 1,396.05

C. The Board approved the following independent contracts:

1. Lisa Kowalski – Norristown, PA. Provide instructional reading and math services for a special needs student as part of the student's Extended School Year Program as per the IEP. Services will be provided for a total of 60 hours at a rate of $50.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed $3,000.00.

2. The Vanguard School – Paoli, PA. Provide Extended School Year services for 3 students as per their IEP's. Services will be provided for 25 days at a rate of $7,360.00 per student. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget – IDEA Funds and shall not exceed $22,080.00.

3. The Vanguard School – Paoli, PA. Provide educational and related services for 2 special needs students during the 2014-2015 school year as per their IEP's. Services will be provided for 180 days for a total of $49,115.00 per student. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $98,230.00.

4. The Devereaux Foundation – King of Prussia, PA. Provide Extended School Year Services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 35 days at a rate of $210.00 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget IDEA Funds and shall not exceed $7,350.00.

5. Spring Valley YMCA – Limerick, PA. Provide supervised swimming for a total of 10 sessions during the 2014-2015 school year for special needs students as per their IEP’s. Services will be provided at a cost of $35.00 per session. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $350.00.

6. Personal Health Care, Inc. – Valley Forge, PA. Provide Nursing Services during the 2014-2015 school year for a special needs student while being transported to an approved private school. Services will be provided for 5 days per week for 4 hours per day at a rate of $44.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $31,680.00.
7. **Deaf-Hearing Communication Centre – Swarthmore, PA.** Provide professional sign language interpreting for meetings and events within the school during the 2014-2015 school year. Services will be provided for a total number of hours not to exceed 24 hours. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $1,481.00.

8. **Cristaldo Interpreters – Blue Bell, PA.** Provide Portuguese Interpreting Services for meetings and events within the school during the 2014-2015 school year. Services will be provided for a total number of hours not to exceed 12 hours. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $1,470.00.

9. **Ian Ash, Music Therapy Resources, LLC – Bryn Mawr, PA.** Provide Music Therapy during the 2014-2015 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 46 hours at a rate of $75.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $3,450.00.

10. **Maureen O’Brien – West Chester, PA.** Provide specialized reading instruction for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 216 hours at a rate of $75.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $16,200.00.

11. **Buxmont Academy – Pottstown, PA.** Provide educational and related services for the 2014-2015 school year. Services will be provided at a rate of $158.89 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $28,600.00.

12. **Joy Brewster and Associates - LaGrangeville, NY.** Provide Applied Behavioral Analysis Training in the home during the 2014-2015 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Direct intervention services will be provided for 528 hours at a rate of $35.00 per hour for a total of $18,480.00. In addition 12 hours per month of Applied Behavioral Analysis consult services will be provided at a rate of $95.00 per hour for a total of $11,400.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed a total of $29,880.00.

13. **New Story School – Wyomissing, PA.** Provide educational and related services during the 2014-2015 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $105,300.00.

14. **Creative Health Services – Spring City, PA.** Provide SAP Liaison assistance including the provision of consultant services, student assessments and parent assistance based on the Student Assistance Program (SAP) referrals and student support groups for the 2014-2015 school year. Funding will be paid from the Social Services Budget and shall not exceed a total of $11,000.00.

15. **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 2014-2015 school year. In addition, services
will include Life Skills Training, SAP Intervention Groups, SAP Core Team/Screenings, Teen Intervene and Alcohol/Tobacco/Drug Use Prevention Education. Funding shall be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed $15,000.00.

16. **Thom Stetcher & Associates – Malvern, PA.** Facilitate training for teachers in creating lesson plans and activities related to Evans Elementary’s ProSocial Pledge and Theme for the 2014-2015 school year. Funding will be paid from the Evans Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed $2,900.00.

17. **Thom Stetcher & Associates – Malvern, PA.** Provide Resiliency training for staff and a student program for students in grades 1-4 at Royersford Elementary. Funding will be paid from the Royersford Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed $2,000.00.

18. **Thom Stetcher & Associates – Malvern, PA.** Facilitate training for teachers in conjunction with Upper Providence Elementary’s Unity Day. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed $2,000.00.

19. **Discovery Education – Silver Spring, MD.** Provide 2 full days of Professional Development services through an Elementary Language Arts PA Core Academy and a Math PA Core Academy for administrators, reading specialists and instructional coaches. These academies will provide a strong foundation for understanding instructional shifts necessary to properly implement PA Core curriculum. Funding will be paid from the Curriculum and Instruction Budget and shall not exceed $5,000.00.

**New Independent Contracts**

20. **The Milagre School – Hatboro, PA.** Provide educational and related services for the 2014-2015 school year for a special needs student at per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $62,830.00.

21. **Kramer Entertainment Agency – Grand Rapids, MI.** Provide an all-day educational program for students at Evans Elementary correlated to the Science curriculum in a mobile planetarium dome theater. Funding will be paid by the Evans Home & School Association and shall not exceed $1,675.00.

22. **Thom Stetcher & Associates – Malvern, PA.** Provide an all-day Resiliency Program for staff and students at Brooke Elementary School. Funding will be paid from the Brooke Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed $2,000.00.

**Addendum**

23. **PSA Healthcare – Norcross, GA.** Provide Nursing Services for the Extended School Year Program and during the 2014-2015 school year for special needs students in the district operated multiple disabilities class as per their IEPs. Services will be provided from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 for 8 hours per day for 5 days per week at a rate of $45.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $68,400.00.
D. The Board approved entering into an independent contract with a parent to provide transportation during the 2014-2015 school year for their child to and from the New Story School in Wyomissing, PA at the IRS approved rate. Funding will be paid from the transportation budget and shall not exceed $13,507.00.

E. The Board approved a confidential settlement agreement and release agreement #2014-04 with the parents of a special needs student and the authorization of payment of Extended School Year services in the amount of $1,400.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget.

F. The Board approved closing the Family and Consumer Sciences Account from the 8th Grade Center Student Activity Accounts.

G. The Board approved entering into a contract with the Delaware Valley Consortium for Excellence & Equity (DVCEE) for the 2014-2015 school year. The DVCEE is a collaborative network of metropolitan school districts in PA, DE and NJ that have committed to learn and work together to support, nurture the school and life success of all of their students. The membership fee for 2014-2015 is $13,000.00 and will be paid from the Superintendent’s Budget.

New Finance

H. The Board approved entering into an independent contract with Erin Crew, Lansdale, PA to serve as the School and Community Engagement Consultant. Services will be provided at a rate of $33.00 per hour not to exceed $45,000.00 per year.

I. The Board approved an independent contract with the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit to provide interim hearing support services for special needs students as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 24 hours per week for 7 weeks at a rate of $212.00 per hour. This contract will cover the interim time period until the district’s Deaf/Hard of Hearing Specialist is able to begin employment with the district. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $35,616.00.

J. The following Treasurers’ Reports were approved:
   General Fund
   - Money Market – June/July 2014
   - PSDLAF – June/July 2014
   - PSDMAX – June/July 2014
   - Checking Account – June/July 2014
   - PLGIT Account – June/July 2014
   - Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule - June/July 2014
   - Payroll Account – June/July 2014
   - Tax Account – June/July 2014
   Activity Accounts
   - Elementary Activity – June/July 2014
   - 7th Grade Activity – June/July 2014
   - 8th Grade Activity – June/July 2014
   - High School Activity – June/July 2014
AUGUST 25, 2014

• Athletic Account – June/July 2014

Bond Funds
• Note of 2007A – June/July 2014

Other Funds
• Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – June/July 2014
• Debt Service Fund – June/July 2014
• Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) - June/July 2014

Cafeteria Fund
• Cafeteria Money Market – June/July 2014
• Cafeteria Checking Account – June/July 2014
• Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – June/July 2014
• Investment Account – June/July 2014

K. The Board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of AUGUST in connection with the CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT – Fund 32:

**JUNE**
*Waterproofing Tech. Applic. #1 - 8th Grade Center Roof Repairs- $ 18,035.32 TOTAL $ 18,035.32

**AUGUST**
*Architectural Studio Professional Services (2 Inv.) $ 10,500.00
*Charlestown Paving Paving/Milling/Re-Paving $ 121,004.00
*Faulkner GMC, Inc. 2015 Truck – Maintenance Department $ 25,774.95

*Waterproofing Tech. Applic. #2 - 8th Grade Center Roof Repairs- $ 147,537.68 TOTAL $ 304,816.63

L. The Board approved the following additions/deletions from the per capita tax for the 2014-2015 school year:

Royersford Borough Deletions No. 001 – 284
Spring City Borough Deletions No. 001 – 149
Upper Providence Township Additions No. 001 – 099

M. The Board approved the following exonerations from the per capita tax for the 2014-2015 school year:

Royersford Borough No. 001 – 058
Spring City Borough No. 001 – 015

N. The Board approved the Cafeteria Listing of Bills:

**JUNE**
Check No. 11752 - 11915 $ 44,054.43

**JULY**
Check No. 11916 – 11925 $ 287,354.49
O. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits**:

Permits No. 4866 – 4875

P. The Board approved sending out a letter of explanation to those "Individuals who received a 2013 Per Capita Delinquent Notice in error". In addition, a courtesy letter will be sent to "Property Owners Who Have Unpaid 2013 Real Estate Bills" advising that their 2013 Real Estate Tax Bills are unpaid and giving property owners one last chance to pay the district prior to records being filed with the Montgomery County Tax Claim Bureau. The Tax Claim Bureau will be charging an additional 5% as well as other fees permitted by law.

Q. The Board tabled the motion to eliminate the Per Capita Tax for the Spring-Ford Area School District encompassing Limerick Township, Royersford Borough, Spring City Borough and Upper Providence Township. The elimination of this tax shall be effective for the 2015-2016 tax year and the tax should continue to be collected for the 2014-2015 tax year.

VII. **PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. The Board approved the 2014-2015 student-funded exchange program with the Coláiste Chiaráin High School in Limerick, Ireland. This exchange provides a 2-week opportunity between students at Spring-Ford Area High School and students at Coláiste Chiaráin High School. Dates to be determined. (Thanksgiving/Spring Vacation).

B. The Board approved 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 2014-2015 school year is $5,400.00 and will be paid from the Curriculum and Instruction Budget.

VIII. **CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-D and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion was approved 9-0.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CODE: 580 Account: Conference/Training, registration, food, and accommodations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DISTRICT-WIDE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. **Kelly J. Spletzer**, School Board Member, to attend the "2014 PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference" from October 21 through October 24, 2014 at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. Mrs. Spletzer will also be serving as the Voting Delegate for the district at the PSBA Delegate Assembly Meeting. Funding will be paid from the School Board Budget. The total cost for this conference is $1,210.44 (registration, lodging, mileage and meals).
B. Richard Grove, System Technician, to attend the “CISCO CCENT/CCNA Training Camp” in Bushkill, PA from September 15 through September 19, 2014. Funding will be paid from the Technology Budget. The total cost for this conference is $3,351.40 (registration, mileage, and lodging).

**BROOKE**

C. Sharon Hohenstein, Learning Support Teacher, to attend the “Wilson Certification Level 1 Year Long Program”. The first meeting for this program will be held on September 16, 2014 at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit with future meeting dates TBD. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget. The total cost for this year long program is $2,070.16 (registration, mileage and a one day substitute). There will be additional costs incurred for a substitute for Ms. Hohenstein as the future meeting dates are determined.

**New Conference and Workshop**

D. Timothy Anspach, Business Manager, to attend the “Business Officials Fall Workshop” at The Inn at Pocono Manor from October 1 through October 3, 2014. Funding will be paid from the 580 account. The total cost for this workshop is $475.00 (registration, mileage and meals).

IX. **NEW OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Cromley seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. The Board gave approval for the admission of Nguyen Hoang Phuong Trang, a foreign exchange student, for the 2014-2015 school year. Nguyen is a young lady from the Tan Bind District in Vietnam, and is sponsored by the American Intercultural Student Exchange (AISE). High School Administrators have reviewed her application and everything appears to be in order.

X. **PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

Juliet Davidheiser, Linfield, stated that she wanted to clarify something that was said pertaining to the membership rejecting the proposal. She commented that this was not quite correct as the Board had given them a proposal and it was countered and then the Board rejected the counter. Mrs. Davidheiser added that the entire membership was never made aware of this since they countered and the Board rejected the counter proposal. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that for the record Mrs. Davidheiser is correct with her summation of the process but there was notice provided by Mr. Sultanik to Amanda Wollert and also to their chief negotiator that the Board was moving on to seeking fact finding. Mrs. Davidheiser confirmed this was correct.

XI. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Ciressi seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Contract Title</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Stipend</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Agenda</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bean</td>
<td>Kevin M.</td>
<td>Dentention Duty - Grades 5/6</td>
<td>Year</td>
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<td>Bologa</td>
<td>Tara</td>
<td>Co-Ed Fitness Intramural #13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capone</td>
<td>Bryan W.</td>
<td>Assistant Lacrosse Coach-Boys-HS</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>$3,991.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Custer</td>
<td>Rachel M.</td>
<td>Head Cheerleading Fall-7th Grade</td>
<td>Fall</td>
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<td>German</td>
<td>Kelly L.</td>
<td>Powderpuff Football - Girls - HS</td>
<td>Fall</td>
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<td>German</td>
<td>Kelly L.</td>
<td>FBLA Club Advisor-HS</td>
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<td>Leyland, Jr.</td>
<td>Timothy T.</td>
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<td>Rendick</td>
<td>Ryan G.</td>
<td>Arboretum Club - Grade 7 (1/3 contract)</td>
<td>Year</td>
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<td>Shelly</td>
<td>Janell</td>
<td>Fitness Room Supervisor</td>
<td>Fall</td>
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<td>Skokowski</td>
<td>Katelyn</td>
<td>Asst. Field Hockey Coach-HS</td>
<td>Fall</td>
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<td>Tobin</td>
<td>Frank J.</td>
<td>Percussion Coordinator - Grade 7</td>
<td>Fall</td>
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<td>September-14</td>
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<td>Tollefson</td>
<td>Laura L.</td>
<td>Rameiros Advisor-HS</td>
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<td>Voorstad</td>
<td>Patricia J.</td>
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<td>Waller</td>
<td>Peter S.</td>
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<td>Fall</td>
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<td>Wappes</td>
<td>Emily C.</td>
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<td>Ziegler</td>
<td>Scott C.</td>
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<td>Year</td>
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<td>September-14</td>
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<th>Stipend</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Agenda</th>
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<td>Busa</td>
<td>Stacy</td>
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<td>Fall</td>
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<td>DePaoli</td>
<td>Jill</td>
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<td>Fox</td>
<td>DJ</td>
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<td>Fulks</td>
<td>Kyle</td>
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<td>Giovagnoli</td>
<td>Heather</td>
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<td>Jamie</td>
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<td>Fall</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>September-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scarcelle</td>
<td>Michael</td>
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<td>Fall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sim</td>
<td>Blake</td>
<td>Volunteer Contract - Basketball-Boys</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td></td>
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<td>September-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Role</td>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Season</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Smiley</td>
<td>Scott J.</td>
<td>Volunteer Contract - Football</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>September-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Varady</td>
<td>Matthew</td>
<td>Volunteer Contract - Track-Boys &amp; Girls</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>September-14</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>Witman</td>
<td>Stacie</td>
<td>Volunteer Contract - Basketball-Girls</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>September-14</td>
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RESOLUTION 2014-22

WHEREAS the Board currently imposes a combined per capita tax levy under authority of the School Code and the Local Tax Enabling Act (“LTEA”) in the amount of ten dollars ($10) per taxpayer, with half attributable to each of the above statutes, and

WHEREAS the LTEA portion of the District’s per capita tax is also only one-half the statutory maximum of the per capita tax permitted under the LTEA, where the municipalities receive the other half of that tax, and

WHEREAS the Board believes the net amount the District currently receives on an annual basis from its portions of the various taxes is approximately two hundred fifty thousand dollars ($250,000), and

WHEREAS the Board believes it would be more efficient to collect that amount as part of its property tax levy than through a separate per capita tax bill, and

NOW, THEREFORE, this _____ day of ________________ 2014, be it resolved that:

1. The per capita tax levied by the Spring-Ford Area School District by authority of the Local Tax Enabling Act, 53 P.S. §6924.301.1, through which taxpayers remit $5 to the District is hereby eliminated and withdrawn, effective for the 2015-2016 school year.

2. The per capita tax levied by the Spring-Ford Area School District by authority of the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, as amended, 24 P.S. §6-679, through which taxpayers remit $5 to the District is hereby eliminated and withdrawn, effective for the 2015-2016 school year.

3. The Administration is directed to notify the Department of Community and Economic Development of this action.

4. Although the District’s constituent municipalities may choose to increase their own per capita tax to the full LTEA statutory amount following this action, the Board adopts this resolution to eliminate the per capita tax with the understanding that it will raise property taxes for the next fiscal year by a sufficient amount to both fund increased expenses for the coming year as it normally would and to additionally fully fund the loss of income which would have come from the per capita tax.

5. The board understands that once it eliminates this tax, if it ever wishes to impose this tax again the Board would have to obtain the approval of the District’s electorate through a referendum, pursuant to the requirements of Special Session Act 1 of 2006.

By:_____________________________ By:______________________
Joseph P. Ciresi Diane M. Fern
School Board President School Board Secretary

Phone: 610-705-6000 | Fax: 610-705-6245 | Internet: www.spring-ford.net

ATTACHMENT A4
2014-2015
SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
STUDENT SCHOOL CALENDAR

Aug 19th  T  Staff In-Service K-12
Aug 20th  W  Staff In-Service K-12
Aug 21st  Th Staff In-Service K-12
Aug 25th  M  Students & Teachers report
Aug 29th  F  No School for Students & 10 Month Employees
Sept 1st  M  Labor Day (school closed)
Sept 25th  TH No School for Students & 10 Month Employees
Nov 4th  T  Staff In-Service K-12
Nov 24th  M  Parent Conferences K-12
Nov 25th  T  Parent Conferences K-12
Nov 26th  W  No School for Students & 10 Month Employees
Nov 27th  TH Thanksgiving Break (school closed)
Nov 28th  F  Thanksgiving Break (school closed)
Dec 24th  W  Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 25th  TH Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 26th  F  Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 29th  M  Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 30th  T  Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 31st  W  Winter Break (school closed)
Jan 1st  TH Winter Break (school closed)
Jan 2nd  F  Winter Break (school closed)
Jan 19th  M  Martin Luther King Day (school closed)
Feb 13th  F  Parent Conferences K-6
Feb 13th  F  Staff In-Service 7-12
Feb 16th  M  President's Day (school closed)
Apr 1st  W  Staff In-Service K-12
Apr 2nd  TH Spring Break (school closed)
Apr 3rd  F  Spring Break (school closed)
Apr 6th  M  Spring Break (school closed)
May 19th  T  Staff In-Service K-12
May 25th  M  Memorial Day (school closed)
June 11th  TH Tentative Last Day for Students
June 12th  F  Staff In-Service K-12
June 15th  M  Staff In-Service K-12
June 16th  T  Staff In-Service K-12/Tentative Last Day Teachers

The 2014-2015 calendar has 3 emergency days built into it in the event of school cancellations. If additional days are needed, the following days will be converted into student/teacher school days: November 24, November 25, February 16, April 1, April 2 and/or April 6.

The calendar will be revised as needed throughout the school year by the Board to reflect 180 student days and 192 teacher days.