

On September 24, 2012 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Edward T. Dressler, Jr. and Bernard F. Pettit
Region II: Clara M. Gudolonis and Dawn R. Heine
Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi and Mark P. Dehnert
Presiding Officer: Thomas J. DiBello
Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin
Business Manager: Timothy Anspach
Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.
Student Rep.: Elizabeth Brady

The following Board Members were absent: Julie A. Mullin and the Board Member from Region I (Mr. Shafer resigned and a new Board Member has not yet been chosen).

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. DiBello announced that a grand opening for the Spring City Elementary Hybrid Learning School will be held for parents and the community from 2 to 3:30 p.m. on Monday, October 15th. More information about the event and the Hybrid Learning School can be found on the building's website. Mr. DiBello reported that the Spring-Ford Area School Board is looking for community members who are interested in filling a vacant board seat from Region I. Interested candidates must be from the same region, be at least 18-years-old and have resided in the district for at least a year. For more information and application requirements, visit the district's website. Mr. DiBello announced that the high school's open house has been rescheduled to Tuesday, October 2nd from 7 to 9 p.m. due to the district's power outage last week. Parents are reminded to check their children's individual building websites for news on activities and events taking place in their schools. You can also receive information about events taking place in the district by visiting www.spring-ford.net. Mr. DiBello stated that last Tuesday the district experience one of the worst situations in Spring-Ford history. Due to a surge in PECO power lines the district lost transformers within the district including the 9th Grade Center, the 10-12 Grade Center, the Middle School, Upper Providence Elementary, the District Office as well as lights at the stadium and other auxiliary things. Mr. DiBello said he would like to commend Bruce Cooper and his crew for working diligently from Tuesday evening through Wednesday evening trying to get new transformers brought in, connected and the power re-engaged so that our students could return back to school on Thursday. Mr. DiBello said he was extremely impressed with their dedication and their ability to go after this problem as he does not believe many other districts would have rose up to this kind of challenge. Mr. DiBello said he would like to commend them on all their hard work and the great job they did.

Mr. Dressler asked if we knew what the source of the surge was and if PECO would be responsible for any expenses incurred as a result of this. Dr. Goodin stated that as far as expenses incurred we would file a claim with our insurance company and then the insurance company if they choose to go after the source, if that is PECO, that would be in their area but as far as our liability insurance it covers our claims. Dr. Goodin asked Mr. Cooper to explain the cause of the power surge.

Mr. Cooper stated that it was relayed to him unofficially as he did not get a letter from PECO regarding the cause of the problem. Mr. Cooper explained that one of PECO's high tension lines broke and hit the neutral line which in turn sent 33,000 back to the neutral lines in the area. Mr. Cooper stated that we were not the only ones affected in the area. Mr. Cooper said that he understands that the computer switch that should have automatically shut it off was on override so it kept throwing it back through and this caused our transformers to actually melt down.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments or questions from the public.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Floyd showed a PowerPoint which gave an overview of the district's AYP status, PSSA scores, SAT scores, ACT results and AP Exam results. He reported that for the 2011-12 school year the district made AYP in all areas; mathematics, reading, attendance and graduation. Dr. Floyd showed slides for each school's AYP status. All schools made AYP in all areas with the exception of Spring City Elementary in reading. Dr. Floyd indicated they will continue to look at and review this. Dr. Floyd next showed information on each building's PSSA proficiency percentages over the past six years. Dr. Floyd recognized the 8th Grade Center on being named a National Blue Ribbon School. He also acknowledged that in math Spring-Ford was ranked 18 out of the 499 school districts in Pennsylvania. The 7th Grade Center was ranked 8 out of 499 in math for students scoring advanced or proficient, 1 out of 499 in math for students scoring advanced, 6 out of 499 in math for students with IEPs scoring advanced or proficient and 1 out of 499 in math for students with IEPs scoring advanced. Dr. Floyd reported that the high school had the highest reading and math scores in the history of the district. Dr. Floyd gave an overview of the SAT results and stated that Spring-Ford was scored well above the averages for the state. He next presented information on the ACT results which showed that in all content areas Spring-Ford scored above the state average. Dr. Floyd reported that the district's AP Exam results that 232 students took the AP courses this past year. The tests are graded 1 through 5 and as a district we had 84% of our students grade 3 or higher which shows tremendous effort by our students and the teaching staff to help get the students there. Dr. Floyd stated that what is even more impressive is if you take a look at our five-year averages for scores you will see that in students scoring 3 or higher we are around 20% higher than the state averages and in many cases 30% higher than the global averages. Dr. Floyd stated that the district also had the highest number of students scoring in the AP Scholars range which is 4 or higher and that was 57 students.

Mr. Dressler commented that the Spring City scores were the lowest when compared to the other school's scores and he wondered if they are going to be measured the same way in the Hybrid Learning environment to see how the new initiative is working. Dr. Floyd stated that in looking at Spring City the area of concern is in reading which is a little bit below where we would like it to be and with Hybrid Learning we will be doing a longitudinal study over the next three years. Dr. Floyd explained that they will be doing comparatives between control groups to monitor the scores to see the impact that the Hybrid Learning is having and all of the data will be documented. Mr. Dressler asked if Dr. Floyd could email the information

he presented to the Board and Dr. Floyd stated he would be happy to do that. Mr. Roche added that the students would still be taking the same exact assessments at Spring City as everyone else regardless of how the instruction is going on at Spring City using the Hybrid Model so we will be able to tell a comparison across the board.

Mr. Ciresi asked in a school of our size what average number of students that should be in AP classes and Dr. Floyd replied that it is hard to say as we do have a large number and it is a number that has been growing. Dr. Floyd stated that it is hard to give an exact number as it varies from district to district. Dr. Floyd added that the fact that we have 232 students is an increase and we looking at always increasing our AP offerings if we can but a lot of it comes down to staffing and scheduling to make sure we can meet the needs of students. Mr. Ciresi asked where we stood with our AP offerings as compared with other districts that would be similar to us and Dr. Floyd replied we pretty average and there are a few offerings at the AP level that some other districts may have but in looking at the continuum of AP courses we currently have we are looking for next year to adding AP Government and we are always looking to see what other course offering are there that would be of interest to students an applicable to those students looking to move on into secondary education.

Mrs. Heine asked about the when as we currently offer AP courses to juniors and seniors only and some of our competitive school districts are doing this much sooner. Dr. Floyd replied that there are still opportunities but sometimes it comes down to the sheer ability to get courses and this still comes down to the scheduling and staffing piece as well. Dr. Floyd stated that there was one sophomore who did take an AP course last year. Dr. Floyd added that he and Mr. Nugent had discussed the possible offering AP courses at the 9th grade level but there are very few districts doing that and the AP actually recommends that you look towards the 10th grade on up. Dr. Floyd said this is something we are always looking at in order to see what we can expand.

Mr. Pettit questioned if there is anything afoot to try and involve more 10th grade students in AP classes and is there some way we fit as a Montgomery County school with other Montgomery County schools as far as AP courses being offered. Dr. Floyd said we are about average right now compared to our colleagues and he would be able to provide the Board with a more detailed list. Dr. Floyd stated that with regards to the 10th grade piece we are always looking to see what we can advance but we need to have staff and there is specific training that must occur, specific curriculum that must be purchased and textbooks to support it. Dr. Floyd stated that there must also be a continuum for those 10th grade students to track thereafter so that they do not reach their senior year and have basically exhausted their course offerings.

Mr. DiBello commented that a lot of high schools are starting to offer college courses and they are partnering with universities to bring in the college class so that students have the opportunity to take them and earn college credits. Mr. DiBello stated that it is a balance between looking at additional AP courses but also starting to look at what it would take to partner with a college to offer college level courses to our students.

Mr. Dehnert asked if Dr. Floyd could put together a comparison of us to our peer schools containing scores on PSSA's up through SAT's, the ones that are comparable from a socio-economic background. Dr. Floyd replied that it would take some time but the data could be gathered.

Mr. DiBello commented that when showing all of the results as a district he thinks we are doing phenomenal, our overall ratings are going up, we are making a major advancement within the state, and when you look at the local and surrounding school districts they are not doing quite as well as we are from an AP perspective. Mr. DiBello stated that the district, the teachers, the staff and administration should be commended for their hard work. Mr. DiBello added that next year is going to be tough not only for us but for all districts in Pennsylvania since they are raising the bar to 91%. Mr. DiBello stated that the district is definitely moving forward in the right direction. Dr. Floyd commented that there are a lot of districts that would be very pleased to have similar scores to ours.

- A. **Dr. Keith Floyd**, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, to do a presentation on PSSA Testing and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

- A. The Board approved the August 20, 2012 Work Session minutes.

IV. **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum/Technology Julie Mullin

1st Tues. 6:30 p.m.

Report will be given at the next Board Meeting.

MCIU

Tom DiBello

Mr. DiBello reported that the last couple of months and weeks have been focused primarily on the purchase of a new building and all appropriate paperwork is being filed in order to get the bonds to move forward with the purchase. Mr. DiBello stated that there were two additions to the staff at the IU and the first was Dr. Brad Landis as the Assistant Executive Director of Instruction and the second was Jack Herr as the Director of Human Resources. Mr. DiBello reported that they spent a lot of time talking about the upcoming legislation proposals and movements within the house locally, at the state and federal levels. Mr. DiBello stated that there is going to be some movement on what will happen with federal funding back to the districts and depending on the direction it goes we could see cuts anywhere between 7% and 9 1/2% which could be tough for Spring-Ford to recover from. Mr. DiBello said there is talk again related to PSERS but he believes that mostly it is just talk. There has also been minimal movement on Bill 1776 which is related to property tax reform where the goal was to increase sales and personal income tax and eliminate property taxes. Mr. DiBello said about 90% of the districts in Pennsylvania will probably still have a property tax due to debt service as they are only talking about reducing the property tax that goes towards the day to day operations. Mr. DiBello said it is not actually a complete property tax elimination as it is just a shift of funds. Mr. DiBello stated that Spring-Ford School District was definitely the highlight this month between our National Blue Ribbon Award as well as being one of the first public school districts to roll out a K-4 Hybrid Learning Center. Everyone at the IU is very excited to see Spring-Ford's success.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin reported that he wanted to comment on power outage and recognize Mr. Cooper, Mr. Ziegler and the Maintenance Staff for all that they did to bring us back online. Dr. Goodin stated that they were right on top of the situation. Dr. Goodin also recognized the Administration and the Faculty for Tuesday evening as we had students in those buildings at

the time when the transformers went and they handled the evacuation of the students in a professional and organized manner. Dr. Goodin next recognized Phillips Electric for getting the replacement transformers and showing up first thing on Wednesday to get the transformers installed. Phillips Electric also stayed in the district all day until the transformers were up and running. Dr. Goodin stated that there were also two individuals from PECO; Steve Layman and Dave Schmidt who were here all day helping to coordinate the actions and activities between PECO, Phillips Electrical and our staff. Dr. Goodin said he would like to commend them and what they did on behalf of PECO to help us address this emergency. Dr. Goodin recognized and thanked LifeTouch for donating to the district a picture of each of our school buildings for display. Dr. Goodin reminded the public that on November 16, 2012 which is the conclusion of American Education Week we will conduct our 1st Annual Community Bus Tour. Dr. Goodin reported that the tour will start over at the 9th Grade Center Parking lot, then tour the 10-12 Grade Center, then tour Spring City Elementary, make its way over to Oaks Elementary where lunch will be served, and end the day at the 5/6/7 Grade Center. Dr. Goodin invited the community to contact Carol Ganister, Mr. Roche's Secretary, if interested in participating in this event. Dr. Goodin stated that on November 20, 2012 the district will conduct our own in-house in-service as minimal outside vendors will be brought in. He continued that we are trying to open it up to our staff and administration to conduct our own in-service and if there is an area where an individual who is highly skilled in the use of, for example, SmartBoard in their classroom and they would like to share their expertise with their peers then they will be given a session. Dr. Goodin stated that we are encouraging a home grown professional development in-service activity. Dr. Goodin relayed that the belief is that we have staff that has a combined expertise necessary to give us everything we need from a professional development standpoint so this is being put together for November 20th. Dr. Goodin congratulated and thanked Dr. Floyd and Mr. Roche for spearheading this.

V. PERSONNEL

Mr. Ciresi asked that Items C and D be separated. Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A, B and E-G and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Dehnert made motion to approve Items C-D and there was no second. The motions did not pass due to there not being a second.

A. RESIGNATIONS:

1. **Sheila Egleston**, 8th Grade Center; Winter Play/Spring Play Director-Grade 8, effective August 29, 2012.
2. **Marla A. Glennon**, 7th Grade Center; Autistic Support Teacher, effective October 22, 2012 or upon the start date of the new hire, whichever comes first.
3. **Susan M. Vukovich**, Limerick Elementary School; School Nurse, effective September 17, 2012.

B. LEAVES OF ABSENCE (Per Board Policy for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks):

1. **Ashley Bilotti**, High School; Business Education Teacher, effective tentatively December 5, 2012.
2. **Shannon L. Dusko**, 8th Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, effective August 21, 2012.

3. **Kathleen M. Grispon**, 5/6th Grade Center; Learning Support Teacher, effective September 11, 2012.
4. **Jacquelyn M. Raco**, 5/6th Grade Center; Certified Nurse, effective September 11, 2012.
5. **Nancy Ruoff**, Royersford Elementary School; Food Service Manager, effective August 27, 2012.
6. **Kenneth Sell**, High School; Custodian, effective August 27, 2012.
7. **Jean M. Taddeo**, 8th Grade Center; Spanish Teacher, effective August 21, 2012.
8. **Lynne M. Webb**, 5/6th Grade Center; Elementary Teacher, effective tentatively September 26, 2012.

NEW LEAVES OF ABSENCE

9. **Michele D. Cabot**, Royersford Elementary School; School Nurse, per Board Policy, effective August 21, 2012 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
10. **Adrian Frain**, High School; Social Studies Teacher, per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective tentatively March 18, 2013 until the end of the 2012/2013 school year.
11. **Julie Quinby**, High School; English Teacher, per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective tentatively March 19, 2013 until the end of the 2012/2013 school year.
12. **Susan Trimble**, Royersford Elementary School; Kindergarten Teacher, per Board Policy, effective October 26, 2012 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.

C. EXTRA-CURRICULAR CONTRACTS: High School

1. Alexander, Samantha	Asst. Field Hockey Coach	\$3,991.00
2. Bennett, Robert	Marching Band Condition Facilitator	\$1,598.50 (1/2 contract)
3. Kolodziej, Nicolas	Field Hockey Coach-9th	\$1,911.60 (year 1)
4. Sullivan, Brian	Asst. Track Coach	\$3,991.00

NEW EXTRA-CURRICULAR CONTRACTS: High School

5. Bogus, Stacey	Student Council Advisor	\$1,471.00
6. Bowen, Melanie	Community Service (Rotary Interact Club Advisor)	\$ 402.00
7. Chambers, Tanya	10 th Grade Class Advisor	\$1,873.00
8. Frain, Adrian	Student Council Advisor	\$1,471.00
9. Lockbaum, Yvonne	Key Kiwanis Builders Club	\$1,104.00
10. Perecko, Darryl	10 th Grade Class Advisor	\$1,873.00
11. Reichwein, Alison	Arboretum Club – 9 th Grade	\$ 402.00

D. **EXTRA-CURRICULAR CONTRACTS: 7th/8th Grade**

1. Bennett, Robert	Blue & Gold Director– 8th	\$1,873.00
2. Bennett, Robert	Chorus – 7 th /8 th Gr.	\$1,873.00
3. Farrell, Leslie	Asst. Girls Soccer Coach-7 th	\$1,663.00 (year 1)
4. Fegley, Alexander	Asst. Football Coach-7 th	\$2,522.10 (year 1)
5. Loomis, Parker	Head Football Coach-8 th	\$4,934.00
6. Smiley, Scott	Asst. Football Coach-7 th	\$3,603.00

E. **DEPARTMENT HEAD**

1. Daniel Leppold	Science Department Chair	\$4,845.00
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F. **SUPPORT STAFF SUBSTITUTES**

1. Deborah Brown	Support
2. Susanne Slaton	Support

G. **NEW PROFESSIONAL STAFF SUBSTITUTES**

1. Alicia Coletti	Elementary Education, Mid-Level Mathematics Reading Specialist, Special Education
2. Katherine Gullo	Elementary Education

VI. **FINANCE**

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

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

A. 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 Board approval

*Check No. 32724 – 32743 \$ 441,831.72

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

Daktronics	Senior High-Signage	\$ 840.00
Don Mace Signs	Senior High-Sign Letters	\$ 2,391.25
*Don Mace Signs	Senior High-Sign Letter	\$ 799.00
TOTAL		\$ 4,030.25

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

D. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

August

Check No. 147119 – 147179	\$ 185,704.92
ACH 121300052 – 121300057	\$ 1,434.17

September

Check No. 147180 – 147301	\$1,123,649.77
ACH 121300058 – 121300066	\$ 553.01

2. Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting

*Check No. 147302 - 147369	\$ 219,664.83
ACH 121300067 - 121300070	\$ 309.76

3. Board Checks held for approval

*Check No. 147370 - 147422	\$ 61,402.69
ACH 121300071 - 121300094	\$ 19,796.59

4. Athletic Fund

August

Check No. 304856 – 304906	\$ 13,945.20
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E. The Board approved the following **independent contracts**:

1. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide three (3) assemblies for kindergarten students at Upper Providence Elementary School, entitled, “**Winter Secrets...Animals in Winter**”. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Assembly Account and shall not exceed \$330.00.
2. **Academic Entertainment – Snohomish, WA.** Provide one (1) assembly at Upper Providence Elementary School entitled, “**The Art of Inspiration**”. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Assembly Account and shall not exceed \$1,595.00.
3. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide five (5) assemblies for kindergarten students at Evans Elementary School, entitled, “**Winter Secrets...Animals in Winter**”. Funding will be paid by the Evans Elementary Home and School Assoc. and shall not exceed \$550.00.
4. **Encore Performing Arts, Inc. – Melville, NY.** Provide two (2) assemblies for students at Upper Providence Elementary School, entitled, “**Taino in Gracias A La Vida, Thanksgiving Festivals Around the World**”. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Assembly Account and shall not exceed \$1,400.00.
5. **Dialed Action Sports Team, LLC – Boalsburg, PA.** Provide two (2) assemblies for students at Evans Elementary School to encourage making healthy, responsible choices and increase drug awareness. Funding will be split between the Evans Elementary Assembly account and the Evans Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$1,700.00.

NEW INDEPENDENT CONTRACT

6. **Joy Brewster and Associates – LaGrangeville, NY.** Provide Applied Behavior Analysis Training in the home for a special needs student as per the IEP. Direct Intervention services will be provided for a maximum of 408 hours at a rate of \$35.00 per hour and up to 96 hours of Applied Behavior Analysis Consult Services at a rate of \$95.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed a \$23,400.00.
- F. The Board approved a confidential settlement **#2012-03** and release agreement with the parents of a special needs student and the authorization of payment of \$38,100.00 in full satisfaction of claims and costs.

NEW FINANCE

- G. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved:

General Fund

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

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – August 2012
- 7th Grade Activity – August 2012
- 8th Grade Activity – August 2012
- High School Activity – August 2012
- Athletic Account – August 2012

Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – August 2012

Other Funds

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

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – August 2012
- Cafeteria Checking Account – August 2012
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – August 2012
- Investment Account – August 2012

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

AUGUST

Check No. 10912 - 10937

\$ 83,101.81

- I. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits:**
Permits No. 4108 – 4171

- J. The Board approved the following **additions/deletions** to the per capita tax for the 2012-2013 school year:

Limerick Township Additions	No. 001 – 008
Limerick Township Deletions	No. 001 – 541
Royersford Borough Additions	No. 001 – 006
Spring City Borough Deletions	No. 001 – 168
Upper Providence Township Additions	No. 001 – 016

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

Limerick Township Exonerations	No. 010 – 033
Royersford Borough Exonerations	No. 031 – 080
Spring City Borough Exonerations	No. 001 – 016
Upper Providence Township Exonerations	No. 058 – 104

- L. The Board approved a confidential settlement **#2012-04** and release agreement with the parents of a special needs student and the authorization of payment of \$5,000.00 in full satisfaction of claims and costs.

VII. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Pettit asked that Item B be separated. Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve A, C-O and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item B and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. Mr. Pettit commented that he spoke to a constituent of his who has an autistic son and he was extremely complimentary over the work done by Mr. Currie, the Special Education Department and the Principal at Limerick Elementary. Mr. Pettit stated that he did not want to let the night pass without expressing the fact that the residents of this school district are very appreciative of the work Mr. Currie is doing.

The motion passed 7-0.

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

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Edward T. Dressler, Jr.**, Board Member, to attend the “*PSBA School Leadership Conference*” at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center from October 16 through October 19, 2012. The total cost for this conference is \$1,256.75 from the 580 account.

- B. **Daniel Currie** and **Christine Raber**, Supervisors of Special Education, to attend "*Eastern Pennsylvania Administrator's Special Education Conference*" in Hershey, PA from October 24 through October 27, 2012. The total cost for this conference is \$908.00 for lodging, to be paid from the 580 account. All other expenses are being paid by Mr. Currie and Mrs. Raber. No substitutes are needed.
- C. **Timothy Anspach**, Business Manager, to attend the "*Four County Business Officials Workshop*" at the Inn at Pocono Manor from October 3 through October 5, 2012. The total cost for this conference is \$410.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- D. **Mary Ann Group**, Teacher, to attend the "*AP Biology: Overview of the Course – Online Evening Workshop*" on August 30, 2012. The total cost of this online evening workshop is \$60.00 for registration from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- E. **Mary Ann Group**, Teacher, to attend the "*AP Workshop - Biology*" in Downingtown, PA on Saturday, November 17, 2012. The total cost of this Saturday workshop is \$180.00 for registration from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- F. **Mary Ann Group**, Teacher, to attend the "*AP Biology: Quantitative Skills – Online Evening Workshop*" on January 15, 2013. The total cost of this online evening workshop is \$60.00 for registration from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

8TH GRADE CENTER

- G. **Victoria Jeffers**, Teacher, to attend the "*Assistive Technology Expo*" at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, PA on November 6, 2012. There is no cost for this and no substitute is needed.
- H. **Patricia B. Flynn**, Guidance Counselor, to attend "*2012 Fall Counselor Workshop*" at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA on October 10, 2012. The only cost for this workshop is \$14.00 for mileage from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

DISTRICT-WIDE

- I. **Cathy Bradfield**, Certified School Nurse, **John Hughes** and **Delores McCarter**, Guidance Counselors, to attend "*BrainSteps – Brain Injury School Consulting Program – New Team Member Workshop*" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on September 25-26, 2012. The total cost for this workshop is \$185.00, \$150.00 for a substitute for Ms. Bradfield and \$35.00 for mileage.

FACILITIES

- J. **Edward Nugent** and **Kenneth Rhodenbaugh**, Maintenance Department, to attend Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies "*LK 101, Schlage ND, Series Cylindrical Lock Servicing*", "*LK 102, Schlage L Series Mortis Lock Servicing*" and "*CY 102 Small Format Interchangeable Core: Basics 7 Servicing*" in Wyomissing, PA from October 29 through October 31, 2012. There is not cost for this training and no substitutes are needed.

NEW CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

- K. **Bruce Cope**, World Language Teacher/Department Chairperson, to attend the “*Annual Convention & World Languages Expo*” at the Philadelphia Convention Center on Friday, November 16, 2012. There is no cost for this conference other than \$150.00, the cost for a substitute, as Mr. Cope is paying all other expenses.
- L. **Deborah Keyser**, Teacher, to attend “*Enhance Team Functioning Through Facilitation Skills & Multi-Tiered Systems of Support*” at PaTTAN in King of Prussia on Wednesday, November 14, 2012. The total cost for this conference is \$160.00. \$150.00 for a substitute and \$10.00 from the 580 account for mileage.
- M. **Mark M. Matthews**, Emotional Support Teacher, to attend “*PA Council for Exceptional Children (PACEC)*” in Harrisburg, PA on Friday, November 9, 2012. Mr. Matthews has been invited as a guest speaker so the only cost for this conference is \$150.00 for a substitute for Mr. Matthews as all other fees are being paid by PACEC.
- N. **Kristin Beideman** and **Ginny Prevost**, School Counselors and Guidance Department Chairs for Secondary and Elementary Guidance, to attend “*PA School Counseling Association (PSCA) Southeastern Regional Workshop*” at DeVry University – Fort Washington Campus on October 8, 2012. The total cost for this conference is \$125.00 from the 580 account for registration only. All other fees are being paid by the employees. No substitutes are needed.
- O. **Julie Caterson**, Home and School Visitor/School Social Worker, to attend “*PA National Association of Social Workers*” in King of Prussia, PA on October 12, 2012. The total cost of this conference is \$290.00 from the 580 account for registration only. All other fees are being paid by Ms. Caterson. No substitute is needed.

VIII. NEW OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Pettit seconded it. Dr. Goodin reminded the Board that if the district goes to the 4-day work week for the 8 weeks over the summer, we would notify those groups that use our facilities to make sure they know that we will be running a 4 day schedule so that they have sufficient time to make adjustments to their programs as well.

Mr. Fitzgerald suggested that if the district is going to move to a 4-day week to the extent that there are any groups that are represented by a union that may have applicable contract language that goes through the summer that they be notified in advance of this change so that there is no confusion on that front.

Mr. Dressler asked what the estimated savings was again and Dr. Goodin said the estimated savings was \$3,900 per day and the time period would be for 24 days so the savings would be approximately \$100,000.

Mr. DiBello asked for a report back to the Board after doing this for one year to show the pros and cons with this and any adjustments that may need to be made for a second year. Dr. Goodin stated that he will do this for the September 2013 Board Meeting.

Mr. Ciresi expressed his concern with the church groups that use our buildings and if we went with this those groups would not be able to use our buildings in the summer. Dr. Goodin

stated that his recommendation to the Board would be that the three churches that we have using three of our facilities and have been holding their services there for quite a while that they be permitted to continue using our facilities on Sunday mornings. Mr. Ciresi said he would rather us look at a plan that possibly pushes them all into one building during the summer. Dr. Goodin stated that he would see what we can do.

Mrs. Heine stated that the Board had talked last week about the district office and she wondered what was happening there for the summer schedule. Dr. Goodin stated that the building would be open for a half-day on Friday and each of the department heads including himself would take a turn manning the phones for that day. Mrs. Heine stated that it was indicated that the other districts that are already doing this do not keep their district offices open and we are talking about this in September which gives people plenty of notice so we could just say we are closing the district office on Fridays and just do the 4-day week across the board. Dr. Goodin stated the concern was that if something were to come up in the district there would at least be somebody there to man the phone but they could certainly abide by a 4 day rule.

Mr. DiBello stated that the current recommendation is to do the 4 ½ and after one year it can be reported back to see if it was even worth having someone come in for the ½ day.

Mr. Pettit asked if after the ½ day on Friday there would be a telephone message so that if there is an emergency and someone is trying to call the school they would be given the number to Dr. Goodin or someone else's cell phone in order to get a response. Dr. Goodin replied yes, absolutely.

The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved moving to a 4-day work week, as a cost saving measure, for 8 weeks during the Summer of 2013. The summer schedule would begin on Friday, June 21, 2013 and would conclude on Friday, August 9, 2013.

IX. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was no report.

X. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Jill Driebelbis, Spring City, commented that last year at beginning of the school year there was mention of a new way of teaching math in the upper grades and she wondered what the results were of that. Dr. Goodin stated that he believed she was referring to the PARLOW Project in Algebra 1. Dr. Goodin stated that he is not sure if the information is readily available but could put together information on this. Ms. Driebelbis said she would like to hear what the results were how he felt things went. Ms. Driebelbis said she does realize that with it only being a year there may not be anything conclusive on this. She asked if the program was continuing this year and Dr. Goodin replied yes it is. Ms. Driebelbis asked if the PARLOW Project was part of the Common Core and Dr. Floyd replied the Common Core is actually the foundational piece that the state has accepted for the standard but in PARLOW Project one of the things they are focusing in on are strands in the Algebra content level which is strongly tied to the Common Core as well. Dr. Floyd said the PARLOW Project is not in direct correlation but supports it strongly. Ms. Driebelbis asked how the Common Core is affecting the school district and how things are being taught. Mr. DiBello replied that there was a 45 minute presentation given at the last meeting and he does not think we could get into the complete report and it would not do her justice to give the report in 30 seconds.

Mr. DiBello stated that it is impacting all districts and one of the things we asked last week as we transition to this is to follow what the overall costs are to the district. Mr. DiBello said the interesting thing is that this is not hard fast yet as everyone is still figuring out all the specifics. Ms. Driebelbis asked if our teachers are doing the training that is going on. Mr. Pettit said the last Board Meeting is on the television so she can get all of the information she may have missed. Mr. DiBello stated that any shifts from an instructional standpoint that have to be made will be made. Ms. Driebelbis stated that she wants to encourage students to go to college and to take AP courses because she knows it will help them but expressed her concern over the district pushing or encouraging students to take the AP courses. Ms. Driebelbis indicated that she provides homebound instruction for other districts and has spoken with math teachers who have mentioned that parents encourage their students to take the AP courses and they are not ready for it and so the teachers will actually dumb-down the AP courses which is not a good thing because she does actually work at colleges and the students at college are not ready for the next level. Ms. Driebelbis stated that she hopes the Board is taking that into consideration. Ms. Heine commented that with the AP courses before any student can take an AP course it must be signed off on not only by current math, science, or English teachers but by the parent and the courses cannot be dumbed down as was indicated. Ms. Heine said it is a common application so if you were taking AP English in this school and you move you could take the course in California and it would be the same content and the same AP test on the same date in May. Ms. Heine said if they are not teaching the content then that is an issue but obviously from the AP test results we have it is not the case here.

Mr. Dehnert commented on the Personnel Items, Letter C and D, that was not voted on, saying that a lot of the positions and seasons are already in progress and close to being finished so are we not going to be paying the people who have done these jobs and should they not show up for their positions tomorrow. Mr. Dehnert asked if we have any legal exposure because we had people come in to do jobs in good faith and then decided not to approve the positions. Mr. Dehnert asked how this impacts the people doing the jobs. Mr. Dehnert said he does not understand while the Board abruptly decided not to vote on the positions. Dr. Goodin stated that there was no second so it just died. Dr. Goodin said he was going to go back to the people and let them know it was going to go on the October agenda. Mr. Dehnert stated that some of the seasons will be over by then and we decided to not vote on this so what kind of message does it send to these people.

Mr. DiBello said he did not get a second on the motion so he decided to move on. Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Letters C and D under Personnel and Mr. Cirese seconded it. The Board had a roll call vote with Mr. Dressler, Ms. Gudolonis, Mr. Dehnert, Mr. DiBello and Mrs. Heine voting yes. Mr. Cirese and Mr. Pettit voting no. The motion passed 5-2.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Diane Fern
Board Secretary