

On October 24, 2011 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

- Region I: Edward T. Dressler, Jr. and David R. Shafer
- Region II: Julie A. Mullin and Donna L. Williams
- Region III: Mark P. Dehnert
- Presiding Officer: Joseph P. Ciresi
- Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin
- Business Manager: Timothy Anspach
- Solicitor: Marc Davis, Esq.
- Student Rep.: Elizabeth Brady
- Absent: Clara Gudolonis**
- Late: Bernard Pettit (7:32 p.m.) and Thomas DiBello (7:40 p.m.)**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Ciresi announced that in celebration of Red Ribbon Week, October 24th through the 28th, our schools will be participating in a variety of activities. Red Ribbon Week is a nationally recognized week when schools and communities unite to spread the message of drug awareness and prevention. Parents are encouraged to check their school’s website for additional information on activities planned. Mr. Ciresi reminded the public that the next Superintendent’s/Parents’ Advisory Council meeting will be held on Thursday, October 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hurda Learning Center.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Kathleen Bryant, Upper Providence Township, said she would like to comment on the minutes from the September 26th Board Meeting. She stated that she was not present at the meeting due to illness but she did make sure to see the rebroadcast of the meeting. Ms. Bryant stated that she is aware that a 40 minute discussion ensued regarding the outside custodial firm. Ms. Bryant referenced page 9 of the September 26th minutes, the 4th paragraph, and read excerpts from Mr. Ciresi’s comments. Ms. Bryant stated that Mr. Ciresi is lucky that she was not present for the meeting or she would have spoken to him instantly. Ms. Bryant commented that we owe it to every adult in the room, every taxpaying adult in the district and every student who attends our schools that there is no way our former superintendent should be spoken of, and she is aware that she was named specifically at the meeting, disparagingly in a public forum. Ms. Bryant stated that it should never have happened and it is outrageous. Ms. Bryant said she is hoping that this can be corrected. Ms. Bryant addressed Dr. Goodin saying that when this thing went on for 40 minutes he should have taken the discussion offline and he should never have allowed it to continue and he certainly should not have allowed it to degenerate into personal name calling of our

former superintendent who was the most student-focused superintendent she has seen in the district in nearly 30 years. Ms. Bryant stated that she is hoping that this error can be corrected and never speak about that individual again. Ms. Bryant addressed Mr. Ciresi and said * “Mrs. Fern had not put the name in the minutes but I am aware from seeing the rebroadcast that you had named her specifically and that is wrong Mr. Ciresi”.

*Due to the question raised regarding the accuracy of the minutes from the September 26th Board Meeting and the statement by Ms. Bryant that Mrs. Fern “had not put Dr. Hurda’s name in the minutes”, I went back and listened again to the audio from the meeting. I found that my minutes as transcribed were accurate. Dr. Hurda’s name was never mentioned, the minutes will stand as previously written.

Mr. Ciresi interrupted Ms. Bryant saying that she read his quote but we are talking about custodians and he understands what she is saying but he still feels that the former administration sold this on the Board. Mr. Ciresi said he will stand behind this as that is where it came from as it did not come out of the air and was not emailed into them from a stranger; this is where it came from.

Mrs. Williams tried to interrupt Mr. Ciresi saying “don’t shout”. Mr. Ciresi continued that if Ms. Bryant wants to get up to the podium and come at him again like she has on this subject over and over again not forgetting how she accused him that they were affiliated with his place of employment. Ms. Bryant admitted that she asked if they were and Mr. Ciresi stated that she accused him of their affiliation when he voted no three times on this service. He added that it did not just come to the Board and they did not just make it up so in all due respect it came from our former administration that was here in Spring-Ford. Mr. Ciresi stated that was the truth and he is sorry if it hurts. He continued on saying that he did not say anything about Dr. Hurda and what happened here educationally, he spoke about Jani-King and what they were sold on.

Ms. Bryant questioned “a bag of you know what”? Ms. Bryant asked if Mr. Ciresi thought that was appropriate.

Mr. Ciresi stated that it was ridiculous to go back and forth. Mr. Ciresi said if Ms. Bryant wants to get up to the podium and argue about test scores over and over again then please do but to get up and keep trying to embarrass them.....Ms. Bryant interrupted saying you did that for yourself Mr. Ciresi. Mr. Ciresi stated that he did not embarrass himself as he told the public where it came from because they have been accused that this was their idea and it wasn’t. The idea was presented to them in a meeting so now everyone sitting here knows that once again it was not the 9 of them sitting there that came up and said let’s hire Jani-King and let’s get rid of 29 employees in our school district, it was the superintendent who brought it to them. Mr. Ciresi stated that however it came to them does not matter but it came through the administration. The goal was to find money to cut and this was one of the things the administration gave them. Mr. Ciresi added that his question was whether the numbers were for real because they saw many sets of numbers and he has spoken to Mr. Anspach and asked if they were sold up the river. Mr. Ciresi said he believes the public has a right to know this considering how many people are in the public talking about them and saying that this Board does not know anything that is going on. Mr. Ciresi commented that it was not them who did this but it came to them and some of the Board agreed to do it and they moved forward.

Mrs. Mullin commented that besides the fact that Ms. Bryant was not at the meeting where this was discussed she was also not in any of the closed door executive sessions so she has no idea where this came from. Ms. Bryant said she watched the entire public meeting. Ms. Mullin stated that Ms. Bryant is not in the executive sessions so you do not know who sold this to them or how it was sold. Ms. Mullin stated that the Board is ultimately the ones responsible for this and they are the ones in the community that are being attacked left and right so Ms. Bryant has no idea what was involved in the discussions so don't come to the podium and act like you do know because you don't. Mrs. Mullin added that Ms. Bryant is here on an occasional Monday when the rest of the people sitting at the table are giving up dinners with their families, baseball games with their kids, and overtime at work. Mrs. Mullin stated that this was not an easy decision and they did not all agree on the decision but they have stood by each other and said that this was the decision that the Board made and they stand by it. Mrs. Mullin commented that the minutes are supposed to reflect what happened that evening, the minutes are accurate, that is what happened that evening, that is what was said so end of discussion. Mrs. Mullin said that Ms. Bryant does not correct minutes and that was what was said. Ms. Bryant replied that she was not asking that the minutes be corrected she was asking that in the future they speak with greater respect...Mrs. Mullin interrupted asking who Ms. Bryant is to ask that and perhaps she would ask that Ms. Bryant speak of greater respect to Dr. Goodin because he should not be told how to do his job and what he should do at the Western Center. Mrs. Mullin stated that it is not for Dr. Goodin to stop them, they are the School Board and he is not going to tell them to stop having a discussion. Mrs. Mullin added that is what these people come here for, that is their job. Mrs. Mullin further stated that just because Ms. Bryant does not think they should talk about somebody, there has been a lot worse said about good people at this table so that to her is ridiculous.

Ms. Bryant asked if that is supposed to make people feel comfortable and in the future going forward she is not telling Dr. Goodin how to do his job, she is just saying...Mrs. Mullin interrupted but was unable to be heard since her microphone was not on. Mr. Ciresi interrupted saying that that we really need to get back on point. Mrs. Bryant said she must respond and stated that what happened was that she requested that the vocational school which has an empty \$500,000 dentist hygental lab....Mr. Ciresi stated that they are all aware of the empty lab and they all requested the same thing....Mrs. Mullin also stated that Mr. Ciresi made that request months ago but it does not carry any weight until Ms. Bryant requested it. Mr. Ciresi stated that Ms. Bryant should go back and read the JOC minutes because for months they have said that they really need to do something with the lab. Mr. Ciresi reminded Ms. Bryant that five of the Board Members sitting at the table did not vote to build the vocational school so they inherited the empty lab after the district spent close to \$20 million but she never got up to the podium and mentioned that. Mr. Ciresi said Ms. Bryant got up at the podium, told them that they were not doing their job, they had an empty lab and were wasting money. Mr. Ciresi said three of the Board Members sat at the JOC meeting and argued with the other sending districts Board Members over and over again about this so it is very easy to get up to the podium and accuse them and tell them what they should and should not say. Mr. Ciresi stated that he did not get up and say anything he will not stand behind and he stands behind what he said. He added that the decision came from our administration and he wanted to know if they were sold a bag of goods or not. Mr. Ciresi commented that none of the people sitting in the audience should respect any one of the Board Members if they do not tell them the truth and how they are feeling. Mr. Ciresi said that he pays \$5,000 a year in taxes, he is a taxpayer, and he gets nothing to sit at the table and take the Ms. Bryant gives them every week she gets up there. He thanked her for her comments. Ms. Bryant told Mr. Ciresi to grow a thicker skin please.

Mrs. Williams commented that we really need to work on the civility issue as there are students in the room.

Mr. Ciresi moved the meeting along to the presentations.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Goodin reported that the first presentation is from the Spring-Ford Counseling Services who are going to give us an update on what they do in the district. He introduced Ms. Louisa Pieri and Ms. Jennifer Gehret.

Ms. Pieri reported that Spring-Ford Counseling Services provide prevention services to the school district for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Ms. Pieri stated that at different schools they provide different services. She reported that they provide support groups at all of the schools which include anger management groups, self-esteem building groups and groups of need. Ms. Pieri stated that the students tell them what the needs are, the school counselors tell them what the needs are and they provide these types of educational groups. Spring-Ford Counseling also runs classroom education based on drugs and alcohol which include prevention, skill building, how to say no, how to say no to other things besides drugs and alcohol. Ms. Pieri added that they also run life skills training programs which are evidence based program at 5/6/7 grades. Ms. Pieri stated that they also sit on the Student Assistance Program Team (SAP Team) meetings at 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th-12th grade. They are basically there to provide information to the SAP Team especially when it comes to drugs and alcohol, they provide assessments to students who have issues with drugs and alcohol, and they provide help to parents who have questions about drugs and alcohol. Ms. Pieri stated that they are also on call to help deal with a crisis such as a death, someone getting hurt, an overdose or something where additional assistance is needed to work with the students. Ms. Pieri reported that their funding basically comes from the Montgomery County Drug and Alcohol Programs and in the past they have asked school districts to subsidize the funding if they were able as it helps them with the extra costs for running the programs.

Mr. Dressler asked if they are employees of the district and Ms. Pieri replied that they are not but that they had contract with the school district for at least the past 17 years. Ms. Pieri added that they are a nonprofit agency located in Royersford. Mr. Dressler asked what Ms. Pieri's view was of the alcohol and drug situation in the district. Ms. Pieri replied that right now it is a lot of hearsay as she hears it mainly from students who come into her office. And they tell her a lot of what they see going on. Ms. Pieri reported that when she looks at what they did last year compared to this year she knows that last year the SAP assessment were down compared to the year before and right now they are a bit higher than they were at this time last year. Ms. Pieri stated that they have provided 4 assessments so far this year which is a lot for only 2 months of school.

Mr. Pettit asked how many assessments they did last year and Ms. Pieri replied they had a total of about 14 assessments for the whole year.

Dr. Goodin asked if there was a way that Spring-Ford Counseling gauges student's perceptions other than just finding out from students in talking to them and from the SAP referrals. Ms. Pieri stated that in the past they had used these methods as that is all they had to go by but this year a PAYS survey was given out which will help give more factual information about the attitudes students have regarding drugs and alcohol and what is

actually going on in the community. Dr. Goodin commented that the survey which was voluntary is tied to funding somehow and he asked Ms. Pieri to explain. Ms. Pieri stated that Montgomery County Drug and Alcohol Programs fund Spring-Ford Counseling Services and they went to all the school districts in Montgomery County and offered to pay for the PAYS Survey to be administered. Those schools that chose not to participate would see their funding stream cut dramatically. Ms. Pieri reported that they do service other school districts but 65% of their funding is designated for Spring-Ford. Ms. Gehret added that if Spring-Ford had chosen not to take the survey then the funding allotted for Spring-Ford would have been cut to 20%.

- A. **Spring-Ford Counseling Services**, to give an overview on the services they provide to the Spring-Ford Area School District.

Dr. Goodin introduced Reem Hamoda and Kristin Robinson and Mr. Ciresi presented them with certificates honoring them for being named as Outstanding Participants in the 2012 National Achievement Scholarship Program. Dr. Goodin stated how proud the district is of these two students and how impressive it is to score in the top 3%.

- B. Recognition of **Reem E. Hamoda** and **Kristin L. Robinson**, on being named as "Outstanding Participants" in the 2012 National Achievement Scholarship Program. These individuals were among the 4,700 students who scored in the top 3% out of more than 160,000 Black American students who requested consideration in the 2012 National Achievement Program when they took the PSAT/NMSQT test.

Dr. Goodin introduced Caroline Bayliss, Dan Lawrence, Nana Nimako, Taylor O'Connor, Jackson Ranheim, and Michael Williams and Mr. Ciresi presented them with certificates honoring them for being named as Commended Students in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Program. Dr. Goodin commented that the district is very proud of each of these students and their families. He congratulated them on behalf of the district and the School Board. Dr. Goodin added that to be recognized in such a fashion is quite an honor and it is a testament to their academic skills and their dedication.

- C. Recognition of **Caroline E. Bayliss, Dan Lawrence, Nana S. Nimako, Taylor A. O'Connor, Jackson C. Ranheim, and Michael David Williams** on being named as "Commended Students" in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Program. These individuals were among the 34,000 students out of more than 1.5 million students who scored in the commended academic achievement range on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

Dr. Goodin reported that the Class of 2009 did an exit survey and district at that time had worked with a company that would administer an exit survey and another survey of those same students eighteen months later as well as an additional one five years later. Dr. Goodin stated that tonight he would be going over the data from the eighteen month survey. Dr. Goodin reported that the results are as of 9/15/2011. 525 surveys were mailed out, 10 were returned so 515 surveys were delivered to the addresses of the Class of 2009. Of the 515 that were delivered there were 138 student responses and 88 parent responses to the survey. Dr. Goodin commented that the first piece of information collected was what the students are doing 18 months out of school and the results showed that 15.93% reported that they were working full-time, 31.86% working part-time, 2.65% went into the military, 65.04% are enrolled in 4 year colleges, 10.18% are enrolled in 2 year colleges, 1.33% went on to a vocational /technical school, and 11.5% gave no response. Dr. Goodin shared some

of the response to questions posed to the students. One question asked if the teachers held high standards and demanded quality work and 80.89% responded yes and 9.78 said no and 9.33 gave no response. Another question asked was if the students were taught such qualities as responsibility, motivation and self-esteem and 77.88% replied yes, 12.39% said no and 9.73% gave no response. The third question asked was whether student felt that they could have used more challenging courses and to this 49.12% responded yes, 41.15% said no and 9.73% gave no response. Dr. Goodin pointed out that what is interesting is that the next question asked was whether students felt they were adequately prepared to make the transition to college or to the workplace and 72.5% responded yes, 17.7% responded no and 9.73% gave no response. The last question that Dr. Goodin shared with the Board was whether the students would recommend their school to upcoming students and overwhelmingly 86.28% responded yes and 5.31 responded no. Dr. Goodin reported that this same cohort of students will do a 5 years out survey. Dr. Goodin commented that 2009 was the last year that the district contracted with this company to do this type of survey and currently we are doing exit surveys in-house. Dr. Goodin stated that when we get to the 5 years out timeline he will come back to the Board with that updated survey information.

Mr. Dressler said he is concerned with the statistic showing that so many students felt that they were not challenged enough academically as he has also run into this at the Strategic Planning meetings that were held. Mr. Dressler asked what we can do to change those numbers and Dr. Goodin said he agrees that this is a concern and he found it interesting that there was the difference in opinion between the two survey questions. Dr. Goodin stated that the question is what can we do to make sure that our courses are more rigorous and relevant.

Mr. Ciresi stated that he had the same comment as we sat here tonight and opened up the meeting with arguing about whether we contracted with a custodian service and what happened with that but this just told us that 50% of our population of the graduating class did not feel that they were challenged enough. The argument in this room should have been on why 50% of them feel that they are not challenged enough although 72% felt that they were adequately prepared to go to college. Would the response have been 100%, would they have felt that they were prepared to go to a higher end school, and would they have gotten more scholarships if the challenges were there? Mr. Ciresi stated that these are the discussions that a Board of Education should be having on a regular basis. Mr. Ciresi commented that the challenge for the district is to never again see that 50% of our kids feel that they were not adequately challenged enough. Mr. Ciresi added that these results tell the truth because these former students have no vested interest. Mr. Ciresi said we need to get to the heart of what this means and we need a report back to the Board within the next three to four months on what challenges the administration sees that we are failing in or teachers may think we need to step it up a little bit. Mr. Ciresi stated that this is the whole purpose of why they sit here and if the number would have been 10% then maybe that would have been okay but 50% is really out there. Mr. Dressler added that it was more than 50%.

Mrs. Mullin asked if we are still asking these same questions even though we are not using the same company for surveying students so that we have something to compare the next time we do a survey 18 months out. Dr. Goodin stated that his understanding is that after the 2009 school year the district is not using this company anymore so that means we are not doing an 18 month or 5 year out survey, we are doing a senior exit survey. Mrs. Mullin asked if we were using the same questions and Dr. Goodin replied that he has not seen the current exit survey.

Mr. Dressler said he would like to know what our students today feel about how much they are being challenged. He asked if it would be possible to survey them. Dr. Goodin responded that the K-12 Insight Survey that we will be doing has one survey that we will be administering to our students specifically to look at the data on what is happening right now.

Mr. Ciresi urged Elizabeth, the Student Representative to the School Board, and the students in the audience to please answer the survey honestly because we cannot move the district forward without knowing how the students feel about these issues. He asked if Elizabeth wanted to comment and she replied that she believes the survey is a good idea and she thinks it would be good to see what students have to say in order to see what the issues are.

Brandon Sullivan, a student sitting in the audience, came forward and stated that it is not necessarily that school is not challenging them enough. He stated that in looking back he now wonders if he possibly should have taken more challenging classes rather than what he did take. Brandon stated that it is one of those after the fact things because this year he thought that he should have taken a different class because although he is doing well in the class and he feels that if he wanted a different change then she should have picked a different class. Brandon commented that it is not necessarily the school's fault but the student's fault. Mr. Ciresi replied that Brandon gave a good answer and maybe a different question should be posed. Mr. Dressler added that there is also the question on whether students are being advised correctly on what course to take.

Mr. Pettit asked if the students who were present in the audience by a show of hands could state whether they feel they are being challenged enough or not. Mr. Ciresi asked for the show of hands.

Mrs. Mullin stated that maybe this is something that the Curriculum Committee could add to their agenda. Mr. Dressler stated that this sounds like a good idea.

Dr. Goodin introduced the next video in the series highlighting one of the characteristics of Spring-Ford. Dr. Goodin stated that the next video is on the letter "P" which stands for Passion.

D. **Dr. David R. Goodin**, Superintendent, to present data collected from the Senior Survey of the Class of 2009.

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

A. The Board approved the September 19, 2011 Work Session minutes.

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

IV. **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

MCIU – PSBA **Tom DiBello**

Mr. DiBello reported that Harrisburg is back in session and several bills will be hitting the floor for a vote. One of those bills is Senate Bill 296 will amend the School Code by increasing the minimum dollar amount of purchases that must be made by competitive bid subject to certain

conditions. The threshold is increasing from \$10,000 to \$18,500. Mr. DiBello reported that Governor Corbett rolled out his educational agenda back in October and part of the agenda continues to be the voucher program. Mr. DiBello stated that he believes tomorrow is when there will be a huge vote in the Senate to see about moving the voucher bill forward. Mr. DiBello commented that there is still a lot of unknown surrounding this bill, there are districts that are fighting the bill, there are lobbyists in place trying to fight it and those that support the bill. Mr. DiBello said that is unclear how the vote will go and he reminded everyone that earlier this year when they were in session the bill did not move forward and it appears that over the summer months they went out and tried to gain additional support and now there is the push again for it to be approved. Mr. DiBello reported that the PA Department of Revenue reported a decline in collections and as of September, according to the report, the state collected \$2.3 billion in general fund revenue which is about \$152 million less than anticipated or 6.1%. They anticipate making that money up but it is still unknown if that will happen or not. Mr. DiBello stated that to date the fiscal general fund totals about \$5.8 billion which is about \$215 million below estimate which is showing about 3.5% below estimate so we will have to continue to watch this over the next several months. Mr. DiBello added that if the estimates are not hit then it will have a pretty dramatic impact on us next year.

Policy

Donna Williams

1st Weds. 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Williams reported that the Policy Committee met on October 11th and looked at Policy 201 – Admission of Beginners and Policy 201.1 - Admission of Beginners – Early Entrance along with PSBA’s sample Policy 201 and decided that all three policies will be reviewed as a group by Dr. Goodin and several administrators and then brought back to the Policy Committee for discussion. Mrs. Williams said that although she was not here last week she did watch the meeting on television and she feels that it is important that she provide some background on how the Policy Committee got to the recommendation they did. Mrs. Williams stated that under the Board Policy on Organization which is Policy 005, Section 6 – Committees, it states that “Committees shall consist of no more than 3 members and in the absence of a quorum the chair may designate an alternate. The Committee shall not meet unless a quorum is present.” Mrs. Williams reported that on that evening two of the Committee Members were absent as Dave Shafer was not there and Clara Gudolonis as most people do know has taken an employment job in Europe and has been sporadic at best in her attendance particularly at Policy. Mrs. Williams commented that they had to think quickly because Policy is a bridge committee between Property at 6 and Finance at 8. Mrs. Williams said that Tom DiBello and Mark Dehnert were kind enough sit in on the Policy Committee meeting. Mrs. Williams stated that she believes that Mr. DiBello at a Board Meeting in September did float the idea of the Raptor System. Mrs. Williams said they sat around and they discussed it and then brought it forward to the Board. Mrs. Williams stated that those on the Committee serve the pleasure of the President and the Board and if there is no support for this then it is not a problem. Mrs. Williams pointed out that Policies 237, 801.1 and 815 are on the agenda for approval. Mrs. Williams commented that she noticed that Policy 707 was not on the agenda and she assumed that there was no Board support for it. Mrs. Mullin stated that she was going to question the same thing as she did not know why it was not on the agenda either. Mr. Ciresi added that he was not sure why it was removed. Mrs. Williams deferred to Dr. Goodin saying she believes it was him who had the policy removed based on the discussion from last week’s meeting. Dr. Goodin responded that it was his understanding that it was going back to the Policy Committee for further review. Mrs. Williams said she believes Mr. Shafer was going to bring it back to Committee but Mr. DiBello indicated that he did not care if it went to a second reading as it would depend on what the Board wanted. Mrs. Williams said it is very important to remember that it is community use of just the grounds and playgrounds.

Mr. DiBello reported that at the Committee meeting he did make the recommendation of potentially using the Raptor System as he mentioned at the Board meeting one or two months prior to that. Mr. DiBello stated that he did comment that the reason he and Mr. Dehnert were filling in was because there were absent committee members so they were trying to keep everything moving. Mr. DiBello said he did recommend it as a potential way of finding a medium ground but he is not totally sure how he feels about it but thought he would put it on the table. Mr. DiBello stated that last week Mr. Shafer made the comment that he was going to bring it back to the Policy Committee for further conversation so he believes that is why it is not on the agenda tonight.

Mrs. Williams stated that we have to be intellectually honest and if there is no support for this then let's not bring it back to the Policy Committee and do this dance again in November or with the other members coming on in December. Mrs. Williams said if there is really not an appetite for it then let's just say tonight that we are not going to support it.

Mrs. Mullin commented that quite honestly she thought that they had done that and that is why she was surprised that it came back up again. Mrs. Mullin asked if there was not still a cycle that a policy has to take as far as a first and second reading. Mrs. Williams stated that we are not changing the policy. Mrs. Mullin said when the meeting ended last week they did not know if they had to vote it down or if it just went away. Mrs. Williams said the reason this policy discussion came up was due to the wording in the policy. Mrs. Mullin stated that Mr. Pettit read the policy last week and it did state "no trespassing" and it says "no use of school facilities during the daytime", Mrs. Williams confirmed this was correct. Mrs. Mullin added that we just were not enforcing it and Mrs. Williams agreed that was correct as well. Mrs. Williams stated that we could talk all evening on how you are going to enforce it but having said that, that is not the practice and the practice did not match the policy. Mrs. Williams added that we were looking to make those two mesh and that is how it got back on the board agenda.

Mr. Dressler asked if Mrs. Williams wanted to poll the Board now to find out whether we should do anything and Mrs. Williams responded that she does not think it is fair for the members of the Policy Committee to sit there and go through this one more time if there is no appetite for it. Mrs. Dressler again asked if it would be appropriate to poll the Board on an issue like this and Mrs. Williams responded that she thinks it is as they spoke their minds last week. Mrs. Williams stated that she thinks Mr. Pettit was against it, Mrs. Mullin, and Mr. Shafer.

Mrs. Mullin stated that she would like to see us enforce the policy that we have on the books. Mr. Shafer said he believes it comes back for a first reading if any changes are made so if there are no changes to be made then there should be no discussion on the policy but the Board could have a separate discussion on enforcing the existing policy at any time.

Mr. DiBello asked how the discussion was being left and Mr. Shafer said there are no changes to the policy. Mr. Ciresi stated the only discussion is how do we enforce it.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David Goodin

Dr. Goodin announced to the public that the survey will be closed out tomorrow morning at 7:00 AM and has been very successful. He reported that he checked the responses before coming to the meeting tonight and found that we had 259 community responses, of the total 6305 surveys emailed out to our parents there were 1355 responses, of the 863 total teacher surveys sent out we had 580 responses. Dr. Goodin reported that in talking with the survey company he was told that by November 7th we should have the data back in the district. Dr. Goodin stated that he will make sure that the Board is aware of the data and

will also place the information on the district website as well as give a presentation at the November Board meeting. Mr. Ciresi asked when the student survey will go out and Dr. Goodin replied that he would have to look at the calendar but it is definitely on for this year. Mr. Ciresi urged the students present at the meeting to make sure that they respond to the survey when they receive it.

Student Representative Report Elizabeth Brady

Elizabeth reported that this past Saturday in the Homecoming game against Owen J. Roberts, Spring-Ford won the game by a score of 42 -0. The Girls' Field Hockey Team played today and they won the first round of the district playoffs by a score of 4-3 against Plymouth Whitmarsh. The Girls' Volleyball Team plays tomorrow at 7:00 PM against Mount St. Joe. Elizabeth was asked how the dance was and she replied that she was in Hershey and was not able to attend. Dr. Goodin reported that when he was there on Saturday night he was told that they had over 1100 students in the gym which is more participation than they have ever had. Dr. Goodin reported that everyone seemed to be having a good time. Elizabeth reported that there were so many students who wanted to go that on Friday they ran out of tickets.

Mrs. Mullin said that Mr. Nugent, his Principals and the Student Council Representatives and Ms. Uhas should be commended for what they did last week for spirit week. She stated that there was an activity every day and she was so impressed with the amount of kids that participated. Mrs. Mullin said it was good competitive fun and as a parent and a Board Member she was proud to see the participation, the behavior and to have that many kids in the gym all participating and behaving at the same time really says something about the Principals at the high school. Mrs. Mullin stated that it was a job well done.

V. PERSONNEL

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

A. Resignations:

1. **Dolores Guber**, 8th Grade Center; Food Service Manager, for the purpose of retirement, effective December 31, 2011.
2. **Joseph Perry**, Senior High; Theater Orchestra Director, effective August 22, 2011.
3. **Douglas W. Raines**, 10-12 Grade Center; Marching Band Mallet Percussion Leader, effective August 22, 2011.
4. **Edward Ritti**, 9th Grade Center; Mathematics Teacher, effective with the last work day, November 2, 2011.

New Resignations:

5. **Grace Cavanagh**, Spring City Elementary School; Registered Nurse, effective with the last work day, November 2, 2011.
6. **Kristy L. Moore**, High School; English Teacher, effective with the last work day, November 18, 2011.

B. Leaves of Absence:

1. **Carol L. DiFrancesco**, 5/6 Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective September 22, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
2. **Dana Green**, 9th Grade Center; Special Education Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective tentatively April 6, 2012 for the remainder of the 2011/2012 school year.
3. **Kay E. Stokes**, 5/6 Grade Center; Music Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective November 21, 2011 for up to maximum of twelve (12) weeks with an estimated return date of February 21, 2012.
4. **Patricia A. Wynn**, 8th Grade Center; Instructional Assistant, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective September 19, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve weeks.

New Leaves of Absence:

5. **Barbara Good**, 5/6th Grade Center; Elementary School, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective October 18, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.
6. **Kristin Landis**, Upper Providence Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, tentatively effective December 23, 2011 for up to a maximum of twelve (12) weeks.

C. Change in Status:

1. **Amy Parsia**, Special Education Teacher; to Teacher on Special Assignment at the 5/6 Grade Center serving as Assistant to the Principal. No change in compensation.

D. Temporary Professional Employee with benefits as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement:

1. **Jessica L. Saloky**, 9th Grade Center, Mathematics Teacher, replacing Edward Ritti who resigned. Compensation will be set at BS, Step 1, \$43,200, prorated, effective November 2, 2011.
2. **Andrea Sandberg**, 5/6 Grade Center, Elementary Teacher, replacing Mary Pat Long who had a change in status. Compensation will be set at BS+18, Step 4, \$47,100, effective October 10, 2011.

E. Long Term Substitutes with benefits:

1. **Lauren Keifer**, 10-12th Grade Center; Art Teacher, replacing Amy Hostetler who will be on a Leave of Absence. Compensation will be set at BS+18, Step 9, \$52,900, prorated, with benefits, effective November 14, 2011 through March 29, 2012.

2. **Anna Kessler**, Oaks Elementary School; Elementary Teacher, replacing Dena Moser who will be on a Leave of Absence. Compensation will be set at MS, Step 1, \$44,500, prorated, with benefits, effective October 17, 2011 through the end of the 2011/2012 school year.

F. Support Staff:

1. **Wendy Monte**, 10-12th Grade Center; Instructional Assistant replacing Wendy Scheel who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$17.04 per hour (degree rate included) with benefits as per the Assistants' Plan, effective October 5, 2011.
2. **Randy Tobin**, Spring City Elementary School/Extra-Curricular; Instructional Assistant, for a new position. Compensation will be set at \$17.04 per (degree rate included) with benefits as per the Assistants' Plan, effective October 17, 2011.

G. Extra-Curricular Contracts: High School

1. **Jeremy D. Daross**, Marching Band Mallet Percussion Leader, \$2,215
2. **Ryan W. Klawitter**, Marching Band Front Visual Facilitator, \$3,197

New Extra-Curricular Contracts: High School

3. **Rebecca Barnett**, Gay Straight Alliance Club Co-Advisor, \$201

H. Extra-Curricular Contracts: Elementary

1. **John Gnias**, Evans Elementary Safety Patrol Sponsor, \$585
2. **Michael Gruber**, Evans Elementary Science Coordinator, \$1,104

New Extra-Curricular Contracts: Elementary

3. **Matthew Bornais**, Royersford Science Coordinator, \$2,737
4. **Laura Clark**, Royersford Safety Patrol Advisor, \$585

I. Professional Staff Substitute:

1. **Lindsay Yerkes** Elementary Education

New Professional Staff Substitutes:

2. **Melissa Hollawell** Elementary, Mid-Level Science
3. **Eric Houck** Social Studies
4. **Jessica L. Saloky** Mathematics Teacher

J. Support Staff Substitutes:

1. **Kimberly Todd** Food Service
2. **Vicki Yeager** Food Service

K. Personnel Information Items

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

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Kerry L. Mihalcik | Certificated School Nurse |
| 2. Kelly L. Donatelli | Special Education Teacher |

VI. FINANCE

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

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

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

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

L. Gary Britcher Masonry	Sidewalk Repair (1,440 sq. ft.)	\$	12,744.00
Comstar Supply, Inc.	Polymer Handhole w/lid	\$	280.00
Landscape Contractor	Deliver/Plant Elm Tree	\$	775.00
ThyssenKrupp Elevator	Elevator Gold Maint. Agreement	\$	<u>2,690.76</u>
	TOTAL	\$	16,489.76

2. **9th GRADE CENTER PARKING LOT**

Bursich Associates	Professional Services	\$	1,160.55
Drum Construction Co.	Applic. #5- General Contractor	\$	9,444.10
Earth Engineering Inc.	Professional Services	\$	951.10
Limerick Township	Professional Services	\$	137.45
Rahn's Construction Co.	M-Top, Bike Grate, Inlet Box-Swale	\$	725.00
*Hajoca Corporation	Corr Dbl Wall Pipe/Swale(2 Inv.)	\$	3,084.66
*Martin Stone Quarries	Stone – Swale	\$	<u>776.77</u>
	TOTAL	\$	16,279.63

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

C. Checks:

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

<u>September</u>		
Check No. 143772 – 143872	\$	196,595.36
<u>October</u>		
Check No. 143873 – 144034	\$	1,679,251.87

2. **Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting**

Check No. 144101 – 144170	\$	432,218.15
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3. <u>Board Checks held for approval</u>	
Check No. 144035 – 144100	\$ 64,462.70
ACH 111200036 – 111200062	\$ 7,723.76
4. <u>Athletic Fund</u>	
<u>September</u>	
Check No. 303774 – 303959	\$ 51,956.07

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

1. **Link Davis – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide twenty-eight (28) presentations for the second grade classes at all district elementary schools in conjunction with each school's completion of the butterfly unit. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Elementary Science Budget and shall not exceed sixty dollars (\$60.00) per session for a total of one thousand six hundred eighty dollars (\$1,680.00).
2. **The Academy – Norristown, PA.** Provide educational services for two (2) special needs students as per their IEP's. Services will be provided for one hundred eighty (180) days at a rate of one hundred twenty dollars (\$120.00) per day per student. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Alternative Education Budget at a cost of twenty-one thousand six hundred dollars (\$21,600.00) per student for a total not to exceed forty-three thousand two hundred dollars (\$43,200.00).
3. **Lisa Kowalski – Norristown, PA.** Provide instructional services for extra-curricular activities for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for a total of two hundred seventy (270) hours at a rate of thirty dollars (\$30.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed eight thousand one hundred dollars (\$8,100.00).
4. **Lyndi Puleo – Phoenixville, PA.** Provide psychological services for students who require initial psycho-educational evaluations and/or re-evaluations. Services will be provided for eighteen (18) hours per week for thirty-three (33) weeks at a rate of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget and shall not exceed forty-four thousand five hundred fifty dollars (\$44,550.00).
5. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide a total of eight (8) assemblies for kindergarten classes at Brooke Elementary (4) and Royersford Elementary (4) entitled, "Winter Secrets...Animals in Winter". Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association (\$440.00) and the Royersford Elementary Parent Teacher Organization (\$440.00) for a total not to exceed eight hundred eighty dollars (\$880.00).
6. **Burton Merriam, The Hill School Center for the Arts – Pottstown, PA.** Provide two (2) performances of the play, "Stone Soup", at Upper Providence Elementary School. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Elementary Assembly Account and shall not exceed three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00).

7. **Academic Entertainment – Snohomish, WA.** Provide two (2) assemblies entitled, “bfit” for all students at Upper Providence Elementary School. Funding will be paid by the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant and shall not exceed one thousand two hundred and ninety dollars (\$1,290.00).
8. **Victim Services Center of Montgomery County, Inc. – Norristown, PA.** Provide ten (10) after school sessions for second graders at Spring City Elementary entitled “Safety Rangers”. There is no charge to the district for this program.
9. **All for KIDZ, Inc. – Lynnwood, WA.** Provide a character building assembly for all students at Evans Elementary to reinforce the pro-social theme on January 12, 2012. Funding will be paid from the Evans Elementary Assembly Account and shall not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00).
10. **Creative Health Services – Spring City, PA.** Provide student assessments based on the Student Assistance Program (SAP) referrals and student support groups for the 2011-2012 school year. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Social Services Budget and shall not exceed a total of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00).
11. **Duane DeWire – Northumberland, PA.** Provide the Spring-Ford High School Marching Band with current state-of-the-art visual design that will stage the music and color of the band for the 2010-2011 school year. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 High School Extra-Curricular Fund and shall not exceed five thousand four hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$5,498.00).

New Independent Contract:

12. **Sandra Moumoutjis – Glenmoore, PA.** Provide analysis of reading data to identify areas of weakness in literacy instruction, instructional recommendations, planning, modeling, co-teaching and observation of lessons, analysis of ongoing reading data to determine areas of weakness for specific students and selection of appropriate interventions for those students. Services will be provided at Royersford Elementary School for no more than eighty (80) hours at a rate of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per hour. Funding will be paid from the Royersford Elementary School Budget and shall not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00).
- E. The Board approved **Resolution 2011-34** appointing **Timothy Anspach** as the primary voting delegate representative and **David Francella** as the first alternate voting delegate representative on the Tax Collection Commission.
 - F. The Board approved the High School Activities account (listed on monthly bank statements) for the 2011-2012 school year. Each activity group has completed signature records and a listing of officers.
 - G. The Board approved the 8th Grade Center Activities account (listed on monthly bank statements) for the 2011-2012 school year. Each activity group has completed signature records and a listing of officers.
 - H. The Board approved the 7th Grade Center Activities account (listed on monthly bank statements) for the 2011-2012 school year. Each activity group has completed signature records and a listing of officers.

- I. The Board approved the establishment of the Class of 2015 High School Activity account.

NEW FINANCE

- J. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved.

General Fund

- Money Market – September 2011
- PSDLAF – September 2011
- PSDMAX – September 2011
- Checking Account – September 2011
- PLGIT Account – September 2011
- Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule - September 2011
- Payroll Account – September 2011
- Tax Account – September 2011

Activity Accounts

- Elementary Activity – September 2011
- 7th Grade Activity – September 2011
- 8th Grade Activity – September 2011
- High School Activity – September 2011
- Athletic Account – September 2011

Bond Funds

- Note of 2007A – September 2011

Other Funds

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

Cafeteria Fund

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

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

SEPTEMBER

Check No. 10392 - 10422	\$ 258,658.09
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- L. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits**:
Permits No. 3717 – 3822

- M. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2011-2012 school year:

Limerick Township Exonerations	No. 044 - 046
Royersford Borough Exonerations	No. 083

- N. The Board approved **Resolution 2011-35** for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance for the reimbursement of expenses incurred during the August 2011 Storm #4025 (Hurricane Irene) Flooding Event under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

New Finance Addendum:

Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Item O and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 8-0.

- O. The Board approved the establishment of a 5/6 Grade Center Activities account.

Mr. Pettit pointed out that there was an error on the amount listed for the assessment going forward and that it should read \$47,500,000 and not \$4,750,000.

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Item P with the amended amount and Mrs. Williams seconded it.

Mr. Ciresi commented that two years ago when the present Board sat at the table they found that they were in an assessment appeal process with a lot of very large companies and GSK was one of them. Mr. Ciresi reported that through countless hours of negotiating back and forth we were able to come to an agreement with GSK that was favorable in whatever fashion it may be to the Spring-Ford community. Mr. Ciresi said this Board was unfortunately burdened with having to pay some of this back without there being funds set aside for years due to this special reassessment. Mr. Ciresi gave credit to all of the Board Members, to the Business Office and to the current and former Administration who worked on this during the process. Mr. Ciresi stated that he knows that Mr. Anspach and Mrs. Rhoads had put in countless hours to try and get this settled. Mr. Ciresi commented that this is not anything that any of them are proud of but they are glad that this has come to an end and moving forward it will change the way that business is done in the district.

Mr. Shafer asked Mr. Anspach what the net loss for this school year in revenue to the district they are actually agreeing to and Mr. Anspach replied \$1,612,000.00 for each year. Mr. Shafer stated that it is \$1,612,000 that is no longer going to be for the benefit of our students and will also need to be on the backs of the community. Mr. Shafer said he understands Mr. Ciresi's comments that this has been a long process and it needed to come to a conclusion but to him it is a significant hit and no one is saying that it is not but it stinks.

Mr. Dressler asked if it would be appropriate to tell the public some of the details on what the assessment has been and how this figure was arrived at and Mr. Davis replied that the assessment had been at \$115,000,000 and it is now being reduced to \$47,500,000 which stinks, is terrible for the district and is a huge hardship but it is easy to be critical of it unless one knows what the appraisals are. Mr. Davis complimented the Board on the work they did and he feels the Board resolved this in the most positive way they could have. Mr. Davis stated that although this was painful in terms of the financial burden in terms of what we were faced with he believes the Board did the best they could have. The result was as favorable as we could get under the circumstances.

Mr. Pettit asked if Mr. Davis would provide them with the original appraisal amount that GSK came in with versus the original appraisal that our appraiser came in with. Mr. Davis responded that there was four years involved and essentially in the first year the best we would have done would have ranged from \$58 million down to \$51 million by our appraiser's

numbers and we ended up with \$47 million. GSK wanted \$24 million assessment the last year and again we ended up with almost \$48 million based on an appraisal that would have implied an assessment of \$51 million as opposed to the \$24 million. Mr. Davis said this just supports his point that it is easy to be critical of the net result until you look at the context of where the appraiser's numbers are.

Mr. Dressler stated that in addition people need to know that this Board came up with this settlement in light of what Upper Merion settlement with GSK was in the recent past as they settled halfway in between the two assessments. Mr. Dressler stated that this number was based on precedent and advice from counsel as to what the settlement might have come out at if we had gone to court.

Mrs. Williams commented that while this is very difficult to swallow there was a time period where we enjoyed this money very much. Mrs. Williams added that it is important to remember that they send no children to school, they utilize very little police, she believes they have their own fire coverage or have donated handsomely to the local fire companies, and what they asked to do is everyone in this room's legal right to do. Mrs. Williams stated that they did not do anything wrong or immoral and the people making these decisions report to a board of directors and they also report to the stockholders. Mrs. Williams said she thinks it is important that while no one is happy about this it is probably the very best deal we can get and we now need to just go forward and remember the old saying that if you cannot say something nice about GSK then let's not say anything at all. Mr. Pettit stated that he is not sure he agrees with this. Mr. Shafer added that he is not pulling the boo hoo card. Mr. Pettit said given the fact that the president of GSK who resides in London was kind enough to donate \$5 million to the City of Philadelphia for their educational program and guess who paid for that. Several of the Board Members in unison stated "we did".

Mr. Davis said if there is any light at the end of the tunnel Mr. Ciresi did allude to the fact that we have a number of these out there and we still have some pain to go but this was clearly the most painful and largest one so we have gotten past this dark day.

The motion passed 8-0.

- O. The Board approved a settlement with GlaxoSmithKline under the following terms and conditions:
 1. An assessment going forward of **\$47,500,000.00**
 2. A repayment of outstanding taxes of \$6.5 million dollars with no interest.
 3. The repayment to be made in an initial installment of \$3.0 million dollars and then credits until repaid in the amount of \$3.5 million dollars over 3 years.
 4. The assessment will remain the same for a period of five years.

VII. PROPERTY

Mr. Shafer asked that Item B be separated.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-Q with the exception of B and Mr. Dehnert seconded it.

Mr. Pettit expressed his appreciation to Mr. Cooper and to the Administration for the fact that all labor is being completed in-house on five of the motions on the agenda this evening and as a result will save a significant amount of money.

The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The Board gave approved for C&C Landscaping, Inc. to provide snow plowing services for the school district on an as needed basis. The cost will be fifty-eight dollars (\$58.00) per hour per truck; sixty dollars (\$60.00) per hour per 6 wheel dump truck; eighty-five dollars (\$85.00) per hour for a skid loader; one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per hour for a loader. Funding will be paid from the 2011-2012 Maintenance Budget.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion for Item B and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Shafer asked if we would be pulling down the poles that are leaning and if this work was being done in-house. Mr. Cooper replied yes that we will be responsible for taking down the poles, all of the wiring and taking it all away. Mr. Cooper added that we will also be taking down all of the fencing in order to get a lower bid. Mr. Shafer expressed his appreciation to Mr. Cooper's staff for doing this.

The motion passed 8-0.

- B. The Board approved going out to bid and award to the lowest bidder a contract for the replacement of fencing for safety reasons at the 9th Grade Center Tennis Courts. Funding will be paid from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00).
- C. The Board approved receiving quotes and to purchase new light standards and heads due to the deterioration and age of the lighting at the lower eastern side of the 9th Grade Center Parking Lot. All labor will be completed in-house. Funding will be paid from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) for the materials.
- D. The Board approved receiving quotes to have a new HVAC System installed in the MDF Room at the High School. This recommendation is being made in order to control the temperatures and prevent the overheating of all the server equipment. All labor will be completed in-house. Funding will be paid from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) for the materials.
- E. The Board approved receiving quotes to have seven (7) district-wide expansion tanks replaced due to new guideline regulations mandated by the PA State Labor & Industry Department. All labor will be completed in-house. Funding will be paid from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500.00) for the materials.
- F. The Board approved having the carpet replaced in the Band Room at the 5/6–7 Grade Center due to deterioration, wear and tear. It will be purchased and installed under state contract. Funding will be paid from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed six thousand nine hundred dollars (\$6,900.00).

- G. The Board approved receiving quotes to have a split HVAC System installed in the Administration Area of Oaks Elementary School. This system would cool the area during the summer months so that the large chiller would not have to run. The savings per year would be approximately two thousand six hundred dollars (\$2,600.00). All labor would be completed in-house. Funding will be paid from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00) for the materials.
- H. The Board approved purchasing a door access card reader for the datacenter located in the Senior High School. The card reader is required to manage and record access to the datacenter. This purchase includes the materials and services to install the card reader panel and will be procured under the COSTARS state contract. Funding will come from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed two thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,400.00).
- I. The Board approved the attached resolution agreement with the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) for resolving allegations filed in a Title IX complaint.
- J. The Board approved purchasing surveillance cameras for Limerick Elementary School to replace older cameras. This purchase includes only the cameras themselves and does not include any installation services. We will be installing the cameras in-house. The cameras will be procured under the COSTARS state contract. Funding will come from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed six thousand five hundred fifty dollars (\$6,550.00).
- K. The Board approved purchasing a surveillance camera for Upper Providence Elementary School to replace an older camera. This purchase includes only the camera itself and does not include any installation services. We will be installing the camera in-house. The camera will be procured under the COSTARS state contract. Funding will come from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed four thousand one hundred seventy-eight dollars (\$4,178.00).
- L. The Board approved purchasing surveillance cameras and a digital video recording device for the Senior High School to improve surveillance of the cafeteria. This purchase includes the materials and services to install the new cameras and digital recorder and to relocate the existing cameras to another location in the Senior High School. The cameras, digital recorder and installation services will be procured under the COSTARS state contract. Funding will come from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed twenty thousand nine hundred seventy-two dollars (\$20,972.00).
- M. The Board approved purchasing surveillance cameras for the 9th Grade Center to improve surveillance of the cafeteria. This purchase includes the materials and services to install the new cameras and to relocate the existing cameras to another location in the 9th Grade Center. The cameras and installation services will be procured under the COSTARS state contract. Funding will come from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed fifteen thousand five hundred ninety-six dollars (\$15,596.00).

- N. The Board approved purchasing a new presentation system for the cafeteria at the Senior High School. The presentation system, which includes two projectors, two screens, a control panel and connection cables, is required to improve the visibility of presentations during meetings and events. This purchase includes the materials and services to install the presentation system and will be procured under the COSTARS state contract. Funding will come from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed fourteen thousand five hundred eighty-eight dollars (\$14,588.00).
- O. The Board approved purchasing purchase the equipment and services to connect the surveillance cameras located at the baseball stadium to the digital video recorders at the Senior High School. The equipment and labor will be procured under the COSTARS state contract. Funding will come from the High School Construction Account and shall not exceed two thousand six hundred ninety-four dollars (\$2,694.00).

NEW PROPERTY

- P. The Board approved having the sound system at the Coach McNelly Stadium Varsity Field replaced. The existing system is presently 15+ years old, the sound quality is very poor and the equipment is obsolete. This system is used by all school organizations. The equipment will be purchased through a State Contract not to exceed \$20,000.00 (twenty thousand dollars) with funding coming from the High School Construction Fund.

ADDENDUM NEW PROPERTY

- Q. The Board approved the following **Maintenance Service Agreements** for the 2011-2012 school year as follows:

Center Stage Lighting & Rigging, Inc.
(Lights, Curtains, Projectors, Control Boards)

8 th Grade Center	\$ 8,000.00
9 th Grade Center	\$ 12,000.00
10-12 Grade Center	\$ 40,000.00

VIII. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-O and Mr. Dehnert 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. **Dr. Jeanmarie Mason**, Supervisor of Special Education, to attend “*Eastern PA Special Education Supervisor’s Conference*” in Hershey, PA from Wednesday, October 26 through Friday, October 28, 2011. The total cost for this conference is \$448.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

- B. **Carol Frankel**, Supervisor of Special Education, to attend "*Eastern PA Special Education Supervisor's Conference*" in Hershey, PA from Wednesday, October 26 through Friday, October 28, 2011. There is no cost for this conference as Mrs. Frankel is paying all expenses. No substitute is needed.

LIMERICK

- C. **Caren Yucha**, Speech Clinician, to attend "*iPad Training*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Wednesday, December 7, 2011. There is no cost for this meeting and no substitute is required.
- D. **Jeanette Hellauer**, Autistic Support Teacher, to attend "*Early Literacy Skill Builder Training*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Monday, October 10, 2011. There is no cost for this training other than \$75.00 for a ½ day substitute.
- E. **Elise Reiter**, Speech Clinician, to attend "*Effective Treatment for Young Children Who Stutter: An Advanced Course*" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Monday, November 14, 2011. The only cost for this conference is \$18.65 for mileage from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

5th/6th GRADE CENTER

- F. **Jen Smith**, Speech Clinician, to attend "*CLM Coach's Meeting*" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Wednesday, November 30, 2011. The only cost for this conference is \$14.00 for mileage from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

7th GRADE CENTER

- G. **Dr. Orathia Bradley**, Assistant Principal, to attend "*Restorative Family Engagement Strategies*" at CSF Buxmont in Pottstown, PA on Thursday morning, October 27, 2011. There is no cost for this conference and no substitute is needed.
- H. **Dr. Orathia Bradley**, Assistant Principal, to attend "*Bully Prevention Conference*" at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on Tuesday, November 1, 2011. There is no cost for this conference and no substitute is needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- I. **Ashley Bilotti**, Teacher, to attend "*Entrepreneurship Education Workshop*" at the Delaware Valley Intermediate Unit in Morton, PA on Thursday, November 17, 2011. There is no cost for the conference other than \$150.00 from the substitute account.
- J. **Ronald Logan**, Teacher, to attend "*Indicator 13 Boot Camp: The Basics of the Transition IEP*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Tuesday, October 25, 2011. There is no cost for this conference other than \$150.00 from the substitute account.

MAINTENANCE AND FACILITIES

- K. **Paul Nessor**, Maintenance - HVAC, to attend "*Belimo University and Industrial Controls: Belimo 101*" at Industrial Controls in Lester, PA on Tuesday, October 18, 2011. The total cost for this training is \$50.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- L. **Joseph Nugent**, HVAC Specialist, to attend "*Pneumatic HVAC Controls Training*" at Industrial Controls in Philadelphia, PA on Tuesday, October 25 and Wednesday, October 26, 2011. The total cost for this training is \$495.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- M. **Joseph Nugent**, HVAC Specialist, and **Denise Whitmore**, Lead Custodian, to attend "Fundamental Control Strategies for HVAC Systems" at the Johnson Controls Inc. Training Center in Baltimore, MD from Monday, December 5 through Friday, December 9, 2011. Mr. Nugent and Ms. Whitmore will be trained in programming and learning to change programs and settings for the HVAC System through a computer based program. This training will aid in lowering the district's service costs. The total cost for this training is \$4,300.00 from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.

New Conference/Workshop Recommendation:

- N. **Jeanette Hellauer**, **Kyla Kaczarski**, **Gina Pastino**, and **Rachel Yalcin**, Learning and Autistic Support Teachers, to attend "*LindaMood Bell Visualizing and Verbalizing Program Training*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Wednesday, November 9 and Thursday, November 10, 2011. The total cost of this training is \$2,800.00 - \$1,600.00 from the 2011-2012 Special Education Budget and \$1,200.00 from the substitute account.
- O. **Richard Grove**, System Administrator, to attend "*The Training Consortium: Microsoft All Access Online Training*". This year long online training program will give Mr. Grove access to over 30 Microsoft Technical Experts and Expert Encore courses including e-Library. The total cost for this online training for one year will be \$2,790.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Pettit asked that Item C be separated.

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items A-G without Item C and Mr. Pettit seconded it. Mr. Ciresi commented that we are seeing a lot of reports on what our Parent/Teacher Organizations, Home and School Organizations, and Booster Organizations do and it is important as we cannot say enough to the public, the parents and the community on how much support these organizations give us as a district especially in the economic times we are in. Mr. Ciresi stated that they help the district with everything from dances, playgrounds, field trips, and SmartBoards so he cannot say more of a thank you. Mr. Ciresi added that every time we see these donations or attend an event it is a constant reminder.

The motion passed 8-0.

- A. The following policies were approved:
1. Policy #237 – PUPILS: Electronic Devices
 2. Policy #801.1 – OPERATIONS: Electronic Records Retention
 3. Policy #815 – OPERATIONS: Acceptable Use of the Computers, Network, Internet, Electronic Communications and Information Systems
- B. The Board approved the following annual reports of income and expenses as required by Policy #229 – Student Fund Raising.
1. Evans Elementary Home and School Association
 2. Limerick Elementary Home and School League
 3. Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association
 4. Royersford Elementary Parent Teacher Organization
 5. Spring City Elementary Home and School Association
 6. Upper Providence Elementary Home and School Association
 7. Spring-Ford Middle School Home and School Association
 8. Spring-Ford Athletic Booster Club
 9. Spring-Ford Music Association Incorporated

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve item C and Mr. Dehnert seconded it.

Mr. Pettit stated that it is incredible that the Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association is donating \$11,000 for the purchase of SmartBoards and projectors for five of the classrooms and he thinks they should be totally commended for this as should all of the Home and School Associations as Mr. Ciresi had referenced earlier. Mr. Pettit stated that he knows he speaks for the whole Board when expressing appreciation for all of the help that all of the Home and Schools provide.

The motion passed 8-0.

- C. The Board acknowledged the acceptance of the donation of \$11,151.25 by the Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association for the purchase of equipment and the installation of five (5) SmartBoards and projectors in five (5) classrooms at Oaks Elementary School.
- D. The Board gave Upper Providence Elementary Home and School Association permission to place a shed in the courtyard at Upper Providence Elementary School to help with the storage of equipment for the outside learning area. There will be no cost to the school district.
- E. The Board gave Evans Elementary Home and School Association permission to enhance Evans Elementary School's wetlands for an "Outdoor Nature Center" in the area shown on the drawings that were approved by the Conservation District. There will be no cost to the school district.
- F. The Board gave the High School Girls' Softball Team permission to accept the invitation to participate in the Walt Disney World Wide World of Sports Softball Spring Training Program, from Tuesday, March 20 through Sunday, March 25, 2012 in Orlando, Florida. The program will include varsity level competition with the team being scheduled to participate in two (2) approved scrimmages and two (2) regular season contests which

are part of the 2012 schedule. This allows a maximum of twenty-two (22) contests and two (2) scrimmages as per PIAA by-laws. The cost per student-athlete will be approximately \$800.00 plus airfare. The girls' softball program and staff will conduct fund raising events to help defray the costs. Student- athletes will miss 3 school days and will be responsible for any work missed. The total cost to the school district will be \$900.00 for substitute teachers for the two coaches for the 3 days.

G. The Board approved the following athletic trips, for the purpose of participation in tournaments (part of the respective teams PIAA schedule):

1. **Wrestling: The Manheim Central Holiday Tournament**

Manheim Central High School, Manheim, PA
 Tuesday, December 27th through Thursday, December 29, 2011
 Meals and lodging will be provided by the Wrestling Booster Club Account
 Team will use district transportation

2. **Wrestling: The Canner Duals**

Biglerville High School, Biglerville, PA
 Friday, January 6 & Saturday, January 7, 2012
 Meals and lodging will be provided by the Wrestling Booster Club Account
 Team will use district transportation

3. **Girls Basketball: Hazelton Tip-Off Tournament**

Hazelton High School, Hazleton, PA
 Friday, December 9 & Saturday, December 10, 2011
 Meals and lodging will be provided by the Girls' Basketball Booster Club Account
 Team will use district transportation

Please note: There will be no class time missed. Teams will be using district transportation. All lodging and meal costs are funded from the respective team's Springfield Athletic Booster Club fund raising accounts. There will be no cost to the district other than transportation. All contests are part of the respective team's PIAA schedule.

X. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No Report.

XI. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Mr. DiBello reported that last year around this time he had talked about the Town Hall Meeting and whether the Board needed to advertise or post a date as well as have the Board vote on it and there seemed to be some confusion after the fact on what they needed to do as a Board. Mr. DiBello said unless he is wrong he believes the Board is planning on doing some type of Town Hall Meeting in the early part of next year again. Mr. DiBello asked if the Board needed to vote on this again or take any type of action. Mr. Davis responded that the better course of action is to vote on it since there will be a quorum of the Board there and there will be discussions with the public that may ultimately lead to a decision so that requires advertising under the Sunshine Law. Mr. Davis suggested that the Board decide on a date and then at the Reorganization meeting in December when the Board typically votes on their meetings for the upcoming year the date for the Town Hall Meeting be thrown into those list of dates for approval. Mr. DiBello said that was fine he just wanted to make sure that we advertise so that everyone will be aware of the meeting.

Mr. Shafer questioned whether the Board does not have sort of a Town Hall Meeting twice a month as the public is invited at the Work Session and Board Meeting to make comments. Mr. Shafer said he is all for attending the Town Hall Meeting but was wondering if there was another agenda and if there was consensus around the table that we do need to have this meeting.

Mr. DiBello replied that the Town Hall Meeting really focuses on providing in great detail what is going on with the budget, major cuts that may be occurring, and he agrees that the Board Meetings are opportunities for people to come out twice a month and sometimes there is a decent crowd and sometimes there is not. Mr. DiBello reported that the two previous Town Hall Meetings were tremendously well attended. Mr. DiBello said he putting this on the table to determine if the Board feels we should continue the practice and vote on it. Mr. DiBello stated that he just wants to make sure that there is a majority in agreement with moving forward with the Town Hall Meeting.

Mrs. Mullin stated that she thinks the feedback sheets clearly asked that the Board keep doing this and why the public sees the Town Hall Meeting differently from the Board Meetings she has no idea. Mrs. Mullin said if she remembers correctly when they went through all the surveys people turned in afterwards it was requested that the Board keep doing them so she sees no harm in doing it.

Mr. Shafer commented that his only concern was that it became an opportunity for the public, although they have every right, to come up and bash teachers. Mr. Shafer stated that this does not necessarily have a good positive message to our staff and maybe the Board can do a better job of not allowing that to happen but you can just never tell in a public forum.

Mr. DiBello stated that he agrees with Mr. Shafer that the first year was a little rough with the direction some people took but he thought that last year when they opened the meeting up they did state that they were not going to go down that road. Mr. DiBello added that they made sure it was understood that they were not there to bash any one group and wanted to really focus on providing information. Mr. DiBello said he believes that last year the dialect ran much smoother between the Board and the public. Mr. DiBello stated that if he remembers correctly there was very little negative comments coming from the audience and a few people got up to the microphone and just said don't raise my taxes but he does not believe that there was any bashing of any one group.

Mr. Dehnert asked about conference that Mr. Dressler attended and if there were any plans for him to give a report or presentation. Mr. Dressler asked how the Board would like him to address what he learned. Mr. Ciresi suggested that this could be done under the Committee Reports at the November Board meeting.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Williams seconded it. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Fern
Board Secretary