

On November 22, 2004, the board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:40 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Michael Masciandaro and Raymond Rocchio, Jr.

Region II: Ammon Morgan, Jr., Janet A. Stokes,
and Donna Williams

Region III: Richard Schroeder and Ed Cummins

Presiding Officer: Bernard F. Pettit

Solicitor: Marc B. Davis, Esq.

Mr. Pettit announced that an executive session had been held on personnel. He also said that there would be no report on district goals.

PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Joe Petrowski, Limerick, said he was presenting the board with 799 additional signatures on the petition for a total of 1,141 signatures. Wanted to clarify his position as being a proponent of a good education at a reasonable cost to taxpayers. His reference to average was misquoted since it is used as a measurement. Mr. Petrowski added that the group gathering signatures wanted class sizes to be comparable to other districts in Montgomery County. (He presented board members with an article from *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.) Upper Merion and Colonial school districts averaged .7 students lower than Spring-Ford. Said that Mr. Pettit said that 12 to 17 students was a good average, which he said was comparable to private schools. Questioned whether Mr. Pettit represented his or the board's views in his letter to the newspaper. Said Mr. Schroeder is quoted in *The Mercury* that he would keep the tax increase down to ten percent because of the district's bond rates. Mr. Petrowski said ten percent is unacceptable. Said that 95% of those people approached signed the petition. He heard that school board members are calling signers of the petition and said it was harassment and hoped it would not continue. No one had difficulty understanding the petition. Said Dr. Coale's presentation showed 200 fewer students than figures from the state and that growth would level out.

Pat Dennert, lived in district 32 years and said she is on a fixed income and is having difficulty meeting tax increases. Wants the board to reconsider private school class sizes. Her three children graduated college and were successful and the class sizes did not hurt them. New people moving into the area seem to want to have an extra special situation that most residents cannot afford.

Allan Dovberg, president of the Montgomery County Taxpayers Consortium, and Limerick resident, said Mr. Petrowski's remarks were misinterpreted by the press. His intention was to submit a petition saying that a need for an additional elementary school had not been demonstrated and to request that a study be done. The newspaper article said Mrs. Stokes was dismayed by the petition and that her job was to listen to the public. Denied that signers of the petition didn't

know what they were signing and asked that anyone not knowing what they signed send him a note. His experience in three other school districts showed that enrollment projections were usually higher than reality. Referred to when he asked Mr. Pettit about the consequences of delaying construction by one year and that he was told by Mr. Pettit that an alternative plan was in place. The board has become less objective about being able to make decisions about its ambitious building program with a possible second elementary school, possible extension for a vo-tech school and district office, and renovation of the dairy building as an alternative school. There has not been an in-depth study to determine presence of mold. Wondered whether Act 72 is a contributing factor to the rush to build. Residents without kids contribute the largest share of the budget. Asked that the petition be given respect. The correct spelling of his name is Allan.

Mr. Schroeder asked where people had been during the district-wide facilities committee meetings that had been open to the public analyzing issues that the petition addresses. He said the reference to a ten percent tax increase attributed to him was meant to dispel rumors that the new school on the Winnies site would increase taxes by ten percent. Mr. Schroeder invited the public to the February 17th meeting of the district-wide facilities committee, which addresses enrollment projections and the need for new facilities. Mr. Masciandaro said discussion of enrollment is always open to misinterpretation and that his son's class size is 28. Class sizes at Oaks is 23-24 and that there is a perception of a 10-12 level, which is inaccurate. Taxes have increased but not in the double-digit range. Last year, the increase was 4-something percent. Enrollment in October was up 330 students from October of 2003. If anyone has a complaint about growth, Mr. Masciandaro said, citizens should meet with township supervisors; schools districts are obligated to educate incoming children. If the district does not have new capacity in 2007 and if the predictions from PEL and Pennsylvania Department of Education are true, classroom size will be much higher. Mrs. Stokes said that she was not dismayed by the petitions but that it was demoralizing to have petitions saying average is the goal. Projections show that enrollment will continue to increase. Schools can not be constructed overnight, it's a long process. She did not want to go back to portables. Mrs. Stokes said that board members pay taxes too and the problem is that the funding from the states has dropped. Funding from the state is now 17% when it used to be 35% and 50%. The board has to raise taxes to make up the shortfall in revenue. Mr. Pettit expressed his appreciation for the public turnout.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Coale announced that Louise Plush, 7th grade English teacher, has been named as a National Board Certified teacher. The certification identified and supports accomplished teachers. To qualify, teachers must demonstrate model lessons, make portfolios and provide data to the national board before being elected to that board. Louise Plush is the first recipient in Spring Ford. Louise worked very hard over the past two years to win this distinction. Mrs. Stokes said that Mrs. Plush is one of the finest teachers she has ever met.

IN MEMORIUM

Dr. Coale announced the passing of Joyce Force. It is with deep sadness that the district reports the passing of Joyce Force. Joyce died last month after a battle with cancer. As a teacher for 35 years, she contributed much to the children of Spring-Ford Area School District. Joyce held many positions simultaneously while serving as a classroom teacher at the high school. She was chairperson of the Business Education Department, president of the Spring-Ford Education Association, yearbook advisor, and was an integral part of the commencement planning. School administrators tell us that no one knew the full extent of what Joyce did until she retired and we were left with the task of trying to replace her.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items A-B. Mr. Cummins seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- A. The board approved of the October 18, 2004 board work session minutes.
- B. The board approved of the October 25, 2004 board meeting minutes.

IV. PERSONNEL

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items A-M, except M-3. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 7-1 with Mr. Cummins voting no.

- A. The individual listed below has completed three years of satisfactory service as a **temporary professional employee** and is, therefore, entitled to tenure status. The **Public School Code** requires that a record of this accomplishment be incorporated in the Minutes of this Board of School Directors. Board officers authorized the execution and presenting of a **professional employee** contract to:

Kelly Kurtas

Elementary Education

- B. The board approved of the following **resignations**:
 1. **Sandra L. Wilson**, Instructional Assistant at the Middle School, 8th Grade Center, effective November 3, 2004.
 2. **Khrystin Dickey**, 7/8th grade Head Girls' Cheerleading Coach for winter, effective October 27, 2004.
 3. **Nicole Flocco**, Assistant High School Girls' Basketball Coach, effective November 10, 2004.
 4. **Amy Landis**, 7th grade Girls' Basketball Coach, effective October 26, 2004.

5. **Todd Reagan**, Winter, 7/8th grade Sports Supervisor, effective November 11, 2004.
 6. **Michael Siuchta**, 7th grade Basketball Coach, effective November 4, 2004.
- C. The board approved of the following leaves of absence:
1. **Beverly Albright**, Autistic Support Teacher at Limerick Elementary School, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective tentatively January 23, 2005.
 2. **Susan Cunningham**, Math/Science Teacher at the Intermediate School, 5/6th Grade Center for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective October 1, 2004.
 3. **Carol Lippy**, 2nd grade teacher at Upper Providence Elementary School, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective October 25, 2004.
- D. The board approved **Amy P. Bornais**, 2nd grade teacher at Royersford Elementary School for an extended Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective January 24, 2004 until the end of the 2004/2005 school year.
- E. The board approved **Amy B. Sullens**, Art Teacher at the High School for an extended Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective January 24, 2004 until the end of the 2004/2005 school year.
- F. The board approved **Shelly Mallozzi**, Learning Support Teacher at Brooke Elementary School for an extended Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective January 24, 2004 until the end of the 2004/2005 school year.
- G. The board approved **Sarah Hett**, Support Technician at the Flex Building, to receive an increase of \$.50 an hour over base rate of pay due to the receipt of her college transcript in accordance with the Support Technician plan, effective November 1, 2004.
- H. The board approved **Sherry Grove**, Birdsboro, PA, for the Playground Assistant position at Oaks Elementary replacing Stephanie Breccia who accepted the Instructional Assistant position at Oaks Elementary School. Ms. Grove is currently a per diem substitute for the District. Compensation will be set at \$9.40 an hour without benefits as per the Assistants' Plan, effective November 23, 2004.
- I. The board approved **Elizabeth Hayes**, Gilbertsville, PA, for the part-time (3-hour) Food Service Position at the Flex Building. Compensation will be

set at \$11.50 an hour without benefits as per the Food Service Plan, effective November 23, 2004.

- J. The board approved of the **Supplemental - Extra Curricular Contracts at the High School:**
1. **Marissa Mickelberg** - Play Director, \$1,784, Code H,
 2. **Connie Henry** - Theatre Ensemble/Thespian Society Advisor, \$1,508, Code I
 3. **Marissa Mickelberg** – Production/Lighting Director, \$1,186, Code J
- K. The board approved of the **Supplemental- Extra Curricular Contracts at the Middle School, 8th Grade Center:**
1. **Timothy Seislove**, 8th gr. Boys' Football Coach, \$2,921, Code E
(revision- incorrect dollar amount previous agenda)
 2. **Sandy Flocco**, 7th gr. Girls' Basketball Coach, \$2,576, Code F
(replacing Amy Landis who resigned the position)
 3. **Nicole Flocco**, 8th gr. Girls' Basketball Coach, \$2,576, Code F
(replacing Dan Miscavage who resigned from the position)
 4. **Todd Reagan**, 7th gr. Boys' Basketball Coach, \$2,576, Code F
(replacing Michael Siuchta who resigned the position)
 5. **Michael Siuchta**, 8th gr. Boys' Basketball Coach, \$2,576, Code F
(replacing Joseph Miscavage who resigned from the position)
 6. **Chad Strickler**, 8/9th Gr. Asst. Wrestling Coach, \$2,576, Code F
 7. **Jane Piersol**, Computer Club, 4th M.P. Grade 8, \$324, Code M
- L. The board approved of the following **Professional Substitutes:**
1. **Robyn Derban**, Pottstown, PA, Elementary Education, West Chester University
 2. **Jennifer L. Eckert**, Chester Springs, PA, Elementary Education, West Chester University
 3. **Courtney M. Gougler**, Royersford, PA, Elementary Education, Kutztown University
 4. **Nicole Hanlon**, Limerick, PA, Elementary Education, Wilson College
 5. **Jane Pellegrino**, Norristown, PA, Elementary Education, Mathematics, Villanova University
- M. The board approved of the following **Support Substitutes:**

1. **Dan Butterweck**, East Greenville, PA, Instructional Assistant
2. **Linda Brown**, Phoenixville, PA, Instructional, Playground, Library, Lunchroom Assistant, Food Service, and Secretarial
3. **Carol Gerges**, Royersford, PA, Playground and Lunchroom Assistant
4. **Jerry Kiefer**, Spring City, PA, Custodian
5. **Peter Piccareta**, Spring City, PA, Custodian

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item M3. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 7-0-1 with Mr. Morgan abstaining.

M. The board approved of the following **Support Substitutes**:

3. **Carol Gerges**, Royersford, PA, Playground and Lunchroom Assistant

V. **FINANCE**

Mrs. Williams made a motion to approve Items A-F. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- A. The board approved of the High School Activities account (listed on monthly bank statements) for 2004/2005. Each activity group has completed signature records and listing of officer's records and copies are available in the business office for the State Auditors.
- B. The board approved of the 8th Grade Center Activities account (listed on monthly bank statements) for 2004/2005. Each activity group has completed signature records and listing of officer's records and copies are available in the business office for the State Auditors.
- C. The board approved of the 7th Grade Center Activities account (listed on monthly bank statements) for 2004/2005. Each activity group has completed signature records and listing of officer's records and copies are available in the business office for the State Auditors.
- D. The board approved of the establishment of the following new student activity accounts:
 1. Class of 2008 – High School
 2. Computer Club – 8th Grade Center
 3. Builders Club – 7th Grade Center
- E. The board approved of the award to the lowest responsible bidder Southwest Strings the purchase of String Instruments in the amount of \$15,180.00. Funding will be as budgeted from the General Fund – Strings Program.

- F. The board approved of 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.

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item G excluding G-4. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

G. Checks:

- 1. A. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session
 Check No. \$
- 2. Weekly Checks prior to Board Meeting
 Check No. 100399-100481 \$493,880.53
 Check No. 100482-100755 \$825,440.41
- 3. Board Checks held for approval
 Check No. 100756-100907 \$126,455.92
- 5. Scott Foresman Checks
 Check No. 100909-100910 \$ 2,086.73
- 6. Athletic Fund- October
 Check No. 296445-296627 \$ 34,799.39

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item G4. Mr. Williams seconded it. It was approved 7-0-1 with Mr. Schroeder abstaining.

G. Checks:

- 4. Plotts Checks
 Check No. 100908 \$ 542.30

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items H-J. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

H. The following Treasurers' Reports were approved by the board:

- 9th Grade Center – November 17, 2004
- Upper Providence – November 17, 2004
- 5-7 Intermediate School – November 17, 2004
- Winnies School – November 17, 2004
- Money Market – October 31, 2004
- Checking Accounts – October 31, 2004
- Payroll Account – October 31, 2004
- Investments Sovereign – October 31, 2004
- Investments National Penn – October 31, 2004
- Treasurers Report – October 31, 2004
- PLGIT – October 31, 2004
- PSDMAX General Fund – October 31, 2004

- Investment Schedule – October 31, 2004
- Tax Account – October 31, 2004
- Capital Reserve – October 31, 2004
- Capital Reserve – Investment – October 31, 2004
- Note of 2002 – October 31, 2004
- Note of 2003 – October 31, 2004
- Note of 2004 – October 31, 2004
- Debt Service Fund – October 31, 2004
- Alumni Association – October 31, 2004
- Athletic Fund – October 31, 2004
- Elementary Activity Acct -- October 31, 2004
- Middle School 7th Grade Activity Acct – October 31, 2004
- Middle School Activity Acct – October 31, 2004
- High School Activity Acct – October 31, 2004
- Cafeteria M/M Account – October 31, 2004
- Cafeteria Checking Account – October 31, 2004

- I. The following reports were submitted to the board:
 - Cafeteria Savings Schedule
 - Cafeteria Investment Schedule
 - Cafeteria List of Bills
 - Use of Facilities Report

- J. The Board approved of the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for 2003-2003:

Limerick Township	No. 17
Royersford Borough	No. 14-16
Spring City Borough	No. 12-15
Upper Providence Township	No. 28-35

Mrs. Williams asked if Mr. Anspach was comfortable that the service could be delivered at the not to exceed price. Mr. Anspach said it was 40 years of information and he was optimistic but that it was contingent on information being available. Mr. Anspach said 90% of the cost could be spent looking up 10% of the value. He added if the auditors had difficulty finding costs, it could add to the cost. Mr. Schroeder asked whether pricing information for a few items could be used and extrapolated. The motion had been amended in an addendum. The board voted 7-0 to approve the amended motion.

- K. The board approved Maille Falconiero & Co. to complete an independent audit of WCTS to fix values as set forth in Paragraph 12 of the Articles of Agreement for continuation and operation of the Western Montgomery County Area Vocational Technical School setting forth the proportion of ownership. (Once the proportion of ownership value is established, appraisals will determine the values of interest to the withdrawing school district.) The auditors will research into the title to personal property and real property acquired. Their research will help identify the proportion which the contribution of each bears to the total cost of acquisition, construction and improvements. The auditors will be reviewing board minutes, audit reports, bond issues, etc., to determine contribution of

each participating school district at time of acquisition. Auditing Cost will be based on time and material cost. Hourly rates range from \$65 for staff level work up to \$175 for partner charges. The not-to-exceed cost will be \$12,500. This cost is based on two meetings with the board, documentation is readily available, and ADM membership from each district can be established for the last 40 years. Cost can be substantially lower if equipment cost (representing approximately 10% of the appraised value) can be agreed upon as representing, i.e. 1/3 value of participating school districts.

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item L1. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 5-2 with Mr. Morgan and Mrs. Williams voting no.

L. The board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **NOVEMBER**, in connection with the **SERIES G.O.B. 2002:**

1.WINNIES PROJECT

Bursich Assoc., Inc.	Professional Services	\$	2,904.60
DLR Group	Professional Services	\$	15,434.00
Fox Rothschild LLP	Professional Services (3 Inv.)	\$	<u>3,483.22</u>
	TOTAL	\$	21,821.82

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Items L2-4. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

2.INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

Chem Seal	Line Striping	\$	1,100.00
Edwards Bus. Sys.	Panafax Facsimile & Maint Agrm	\$	1,385.00
Follett Library Res.	Library Books (2 Inv.)	\$	2,744.49
Fox Rothschild	Professional Services (3 Inv.)	\$	1,293.00
Gopher	Physical Education Equipment	\$	866.68
Ray Supply	GBC Laminator	\$	1,285.21
Troxell Inc.	140 Combo DVD/VCR –Media	\$	15,815.80
Wabash Valley	8 Domes/Trash Receptacles	\$	440.00
Wenger	Instrument Storage Cabinet	\$	1,500.00
	(Music Dept.)	\$	
World Almanac Ed.	Library Books	\$	387.65
*Schiller & Hersh	Air & Water Balancing	\$	9,352.50
*Spring-Ford S. D.	Clerk Of Works/Secretary	\$	<u>30,603.62</u>
	Salary & Benefits		
	TOTAL	\$	66,773.95

3.UPPER PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Brook Mays/Zeswitz	1 Bass Xylophone	\$	839.00
Troxell Inc.	8 Combo DVD/VCR -Media	\$	<u>903.76</u>
	TOTAL	\$	1,742.76

4.MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

DLR Group	Professional Services	\$	7,500.00
Gramm Remodeling	Cabinetry Work/Repairs	\$	620.00
Karl & Associates	Professional Services/Analysis	\$	90.00
Karl & Associates	Professional Services/EnvConstl	\$	10,906.00
K&A Environmental	Professional Services	\$	3,246.00
Perkins/T.P. Trailers	6 Storage Container Rental	\$	450.00
Queen Appliances	Maytag Washer & Dryer	\$	2,429.00
*Altchem Environ.	Applic. #5- Asbestos Abatement	\$	4,821.25
*Altchem Environ.	Applic. #6- Asbestos Abatement	\$	12,751.75
*Adams-Bickel, Inc.	Applic. #3- General Contractor	\$	<u>907,226.14</u>
	TOTAL	\$	950,040.14

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items M-O. Mrs. Williams seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- M. The board approved payment for the following invoices for the month of **NOVEMBER**, in connection with the **SERIES G.O.B. 2003:**
- N. The board approved of the following invoices for the month of **NOVEMBER**, in connection with the **CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT – Fund 22:**

McMahon Associates	Traffic Signal Design	\$	992.75
	TOTAL	\$	992.75

Potential Land Purchase

Fox Rothschild	Professional Services (2 Inv.)	\$	<u>1,434.66</u>
	TOTAL	\$	1,434.66

Brooke Elementary School-Re-Roofing Project

*Arthur Altemose Arch.	Professional Services	\$	<u>19,965.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$	19,965.00

New District Office

Zap Digital	Copying Serv. (Engineer Bond)	\$	<u>99.45</u>
	TOTAL	\$	99.45

***NEW BUSINESS**

- O. The board approved of the following **independent contracts:**
 1. **Laurie Larrabee ARA**, PO Box 3407, Maple Glen, PA 19002-8407. “Author Day” presentations and autographing of books. This program is for Assemblies/presentations to elementary students (Grades K to 4 at five (5) elementary schools.
 - 1) Brooke Elementary – funding Home & school
 - 2) Upper Providence – 11-1100-392-000-000-00-19-17
 - 3) Spring City - \$650 – Home and School/
\$850 – 11-1100-329-000-000-00-19-06

- 4) Limerick – Limerick Home & School
 - 5) Oaks – Oaks PTA
- Autographing of books which students have purchased prior to arrival.
Program not to exceed Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500.00).
2. **Trudy Phillips/Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy**, 1 Skippack Pike, Schwenksville, PA 19473 This program is for Five (5) one-hour presentations on “Winter Secrets... Animals in Winter for three (3) Kindergarten classes (5) presentations at Brooke Elementary School. Program not to exceed Three Hundred Seventy Five dollars, (\$375.00). with Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) per presentation. Effective January 4, 2005 until January 6, 2006. Funding source: Brooke Elementary School Home and School Association.
 3. **Jack Chambers**, 535 Pickering Station Drive, Chester Springs, PA 19425. This program is for a student workshop “Crazy Olympics” a (2) two full day student workshop and a building event entitled “Crazy Olympics” January 27 and 28, 2005. Program not to exceed One Thousand Four Hundred dollars. (\$1,400.00). Effective October 27, 2004. Funding source, Upper Providence Elementary Home & School Assembly Account.
 4. **Benmore Enterprises Dino Dig** (Dinosaur Expedition 2005) – 1234 Pine Ridge, Bushkill, PA 18324. Dino Dig workshop will be for the Limerick Elementary School, second graders only. Dinosaurs theme.. An 8 foot Triceratops skull will be on display, students will be participating in own dig – taking home a fossil of their findings which are actual fossils found on archeologist dig. Question and Answer session will be held. Program will not exceed Four Hundred Fifty dollars (\$450.00) through home and school association.
 5. **Kristen Pedementi**, 583 Dotts St., Pennsburg, PA 18073. This is a 2-45 minute assembly for “Reading is Fun” Day, for Limerick Elementary. Effective October 13, 2004. This program is not to exceed Five Hundred Fifty dollars (\$550.00). Funding source is Home School Funds.
 6. **Suburban Philadelphia Artist in Education Consortium**, 47 Church Road, Malvern, Pa 19355. This program is for the Upper Providence students to interact with an artistic environment in a unique way, effective 10/6/04. Artist in Residence Project, sponsored by Montgomery co. Intermediate Unit. George Shortess, an interdisciplinary artist, will work with computer and art (visual, music, and dance). This program is not to exceed One Thousand Five Hundred Twenty dollars, (\$1,520.00) account No. 11-1100-329-000-000-00-19-07. Funding source through Artist in Residence Budget - \$520.00 and UP Home and School \$1,000.00.

7. **Suburban Philadelphia artist in Education consortium**, 47 Church Road, Malvern, PA. 19355. This program is for Brooke Elementary to interact with an artistic environment in a unique way, effective during January or February. Nine day of Artist in Residency, exact days to be determined. Artist in Residence Project, sponsored by Montgomery co. Intermediate Unit. George Shortess, an interdisciplinary artist, will work with computer and art (visual, music, and dance). This program is not to exceed One Thousand Five Hundred Twenty dollars, (\$1,520.00) account No. 11-1100-329-000-000-00-19-03. Funding source through Artist in Residence Budget –
8. **KidsPeace National Centers**, 4125 Independence Drive, Suite #4, Schnecksville, PA 18078, for the provision of educational services for a student who will be receiving diagnostic services. Services will be provided at the cost of two hundred forty-six dollars (\$246.00) per day not to exceed seventy-five (75) days. Total contract cost not to exceed eighteen thousand four hundred fifty dollars (\$18,450.00). Contract shall be in effect from November 8, 2004 to January 15, 2005. Funding will be from the 2004-2005 Special Education Budget.
9. **American Red Cross**, Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter, 23rd and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19103, to provide Initial Training & Recertification of Staff in CPR and First Aid. Approximate number of staff to be trained is fifteen (15) @ sixty-five dollars (\$65.00) per person. Total cost of the training not to exceed nine hundred seventy-five dollars (\$975.00). This training will take place on November 22, 2004. Cost for this training will be paid from the 2004-2005 PA Medical ACCESS Funds.

VI. PROPERTY

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Cummins seconded it. It was approved 6-2 with Mrs. Williams and Mr. Morgan voting no.

- A. The board approved of changing **DLR's** contract for the **Winnies Project** from bidding this project as a single prime to a multiple prime project. This will take extra changes in the drawings and specifications and will be an added cost for DLR to complete. There also will be added costs for coordination for DLR for the field observation portion.

VII. CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

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

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

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items A-N. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Dr. Genevieve D. Coale**, Superintendent of Schools and **Richard Cechak**, President of Spring-Ford Education Association, to attend "*American Education Week "Kick-off" Luncheon*" at the William Penn Inn in Gwynedd, PA on Monday, November 15, 2004. The total cost of the luncheon is \$87.00 from the 580 account and \$50.00 from the substitute account.
- B. **Dr. Genevieve D. Coale**, Superintendent of Schools, and **Timothy Anspach**, Business Manager, to attend a "*Mid-Atlantic Consortium of Education Foundations' Workshop*" at the Wissahickon School District on Thursday, December 2, 2004. The total cost of this workshop is \$61.00 from the 580 account.
- C. **Timothy Anspach**, Business Manager, and **Shirley Rhoads**, Assistant Business Manager, to attend "*Commonwealth Budget Seminar*" at the Chester County Intermediate Unit on Monday, February 28, 2005. The total cost of the seminar is \$175.00 from the 580 account.
- D. **Timothy Anspach**, Business Manager, and **Shirley Rhoads**, Assistant Business Manager, to attend "*PASBO Annual Conference*" in King of Prussia, PA from Tuesday, March 8, 2005 through Friday, March 11, 2005. The total cost of the conference is \$1,224.00 from the 580 account.
- E. **Timothy Anspach**, Business Manager, to attend "*Best Value Purchasing*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit on Friday, April 8, 2005. The total cost of the seminar is \$95.00 from the 580 account.
- F. **Dr. Leticia M. Rodriguez**, Director of Human Resources, to attend "*PA Association of School Personnel Administrators Workshop on Bridge Certificates*" at the Capital Intermediate Unit in Harrisburg on Friday, December 3, 2004. The total cost of the conference is \$235.00 from the 580 account.

- G. **Dr. Leticia M. Rodriguez**, Director of Human Resources, to attend "*PA Association of School Personnel Administrators*" in Harrisburg, PA from Tuesday, March 1, 2005 through Friday, March 4, 2005. The total cost of the conference is \$848.00 from the 580 account.
- H. **Shirley A. Rhoads**, Assistant Business Manager, to attend "*Maintaining Capital Assets*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit on Friday, April 8, 2005. The total cost of the seminar is \$95.00 from the 580 account.

HIGH SCHOOL

- I. **Judy Kuhns**, Technology Integration Specialist, to attend the "*PA Educational Technology Conference and Expo*" in Hershey, PA from Sunday, February 20, 2005 through Tuesday, February 22, 2005. This conference will assist in remaining current with technology integration practices and ideas. The total cost of the conference is \$597.00 from the 580 account.
- J. **Patrick J. Nugent**, Principal, to attend "*National Association of Secondary School Principals 89th Annual Convention and Exposition*" in San Francisco, CA from Thursday, February 24, 2005 through Tuesday, March 1, 2005. This convention will offer a broad range of vital educational offerings focusing on the American High School. The total cost of this convention is \$1,938.00 from the 580 account.

7th GRADE CENTER

- K. **Tina Weidenbaugh**, Principal – 7th Grade Center, and **Jacqueline Clarke Havrilla**, Principal of Limerick Elementary, to attend "*PASA Women's Caucus*" in King of Prussia, PA on Tuesday, November 30, 2004. The total cost of the workshop is \$104.00 from the 580 account.

BROOKE

- L. **Mariel Zummo, Megan Seip, Katie Davis**, Learning Support teachers, to attend "*Progress Monitoring Training*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Monday, January 24, Monday, February 7, and Wednesday, May 18, 2005. Attendance at this conference is mandatory in order to develop skills and methods for the data collection methodology of Progress Monitoring to provide more information to direct educational process and reporting to parents. The total cost of this conference is \$981.75 - \$81.75 from the Special Education Budget and \$900.00 from the substitute account.

OAKS

- M. **Elise Reiter**, Speech Therapist, to attend "*Assistive Technology Core Team Update Training*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Thursday, April 7, 2005. This is mandated training for

updating members of the Assistive Technology Core Team. The total cost of this conference is \$120.43 - \$20.43 from the Special Education Budget and \$100.00 from the substitute account.

INTERMEDIATE 5/6 CENTER

- N. **Christina Berkheiser**, Learning Support Teacher, to attend *"Make and Take for the PASA Workshop"* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Tuesday, March 8, 2005. This workshop will provide Christina with state training for the PASA and address areas such as the purpose of the assessment, format, process and criteria. The total cost of this workshop is \$142.50 - \$17.50 from the Special Education Budget and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item O (was item F on addendum). Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

ROYERSFORD

- O. **Dave Willauer**, Principal, to attend the *"Montgomery County Principals and Supervisors Association Annual Winter Workshop"* at the Blue Bell Inn on Wednesday, December 1, 2004. The total cost of the conference is \$49.00 from the 580 account.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Items A-E. Mr. Morgan seconded it. It was approved 8-0. Mr. Schroeder asked why "may" was used rather than "shall" in regard to student attendance. Dr. Coale said that absences are reported to authorities at 25 days in addition to a persistent pattern. The language gives the administration leeway. Mrs. Williams asked for an update on numbers of students signed up for the trip. Mrs. Volpe reported 130. Mrs. Williams asked if she felt comfortable with the student:chaperone ratio and Mrs. Volpe said yes.

- A. The following policies were approved by the board:
1. Policy # 001 – LOCAL BOARD PROCEDURES: Name and Classification
 2. Policy # 005 – LOCAL BOARD PROCEDURES: Organization
 3. Policy # 101 – PROGRAMS: Philosophy of Education
 4. Policy # 204 – PUPILS: Attendance
 5. Policy # 226 – PUPILS: Searches
 6. Policy # 243 – PUPILS: Plagiarism
- B. The board approved Kris Jennings, Instrumental Teacher at the 7th Grade Center and Yvonne O'Dea, Vocal Music Teacher at the 8th Grade Center, to take the Middle School Concert, Jazz and Parade Bands, Chorus and Gold 'n Blues on an overnight trip to Hershey, PA on May 13 & 14, 2005. The students will perform and be adjudicated by a national panel of judges and hear performances from schools across the Eastern Seaboard. The cost for four (4) chartered busses is six thousand five

hundred thirty-eight dollars (\$6,538.00), two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) of which is budgeted in the 2004-2005 spring transportation budget, plus the cost of accommodations for the driver. The cost to each student is one hundred thirty-five dollars (\$135.00); opportunities will be available for students to offset the cost through fundraisers.

- C. The board approved that student number 20405 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.
- D. The board approved a waiver of the 50% class participation quota for the senior class trip in 2005 to Clearwater, Florida.
- E. The board approved Melanie Volpe and Elaine Ruppert, Senior class advisors, to take the Class of 2005 on a five-day trip to Clearwater Beach and Orlando, Florida from Thursday, April 21 to Monday April 25, 2005. The cost of the trip will be approximately eight hundred forty-nine (\$849.00) dollars per student, less any senior class fund supplement. This trip will be conducted in accordance with Board Policy #121, which outlines the specific requirements for Overnight Field Trips.

RAYMOND J. ROCCHIO, JR.**PSBA REPORT**

The General Assembly returned to session this week. On Tuesday the Senate Education Committee and, later that day, the full Senate unanimously approved the nomination of Dr. Francis Barnes to serve as secretary of education. He replaces former secretary Dr. Vicki Phillips, who resigned in July to become the superintendent of the schools in Portland, Oregon. Barnes, 55, has been serving as acting secretary since Phillips' departure. Prior to that, he was the superintendent of the Palisades School District in Kintnersville, Bucks County. He previously served as superintendent of the Huntingdon Area and Hopewell Area school districts. This past year, Barnes served as the first "Superintendent on Special Assignment" at the Department of Education. In this position, Barnes worked directly with the secretary as a senior member of her team on various initiatives.

The full Senate concurred in House amendments to SB 137, which would amend the Minor's Consent Act to allow a child age 14 or older to consent to voluntary outpatient or inpatient mental health services without the consent of the parent. However, if the child were under the age of 18, the parent could consent to services for the child without his or her agreement. The extensive bill contains various other provisions concerning consent for treatment of minors for mental health services. SB 137 will now be presented to the governor for final approval.

As this report is filed, the Senate is expected to consider HB 1113, which would require school districts to adopt written policies to allow for the possession of an asthma inhaler and the self-administration by a school

student of the prescribed medication contained therein in a school setting. If the Senate approves HB 1113, it will be returned to the House for a concurrence vote on amendments made by the Senate Education Committee.

The Senate Judiciary Committee approved HB 2262 that would create the Child Internet Protection Act that applies to public school and libraries. Under the bill, school boards would have to adopt an acceptable-use policy to prevent students and employees from willfully using a computer to view obscene material. Boards would have to submit their policies to the secretary of education for review. If the secretary believes that a policy does not achieve the requirements of the act, the board would have to revise the document.

The Senate Transportation Committee approved HB 1315, which would establish a pilot program to provide for the enforcement of the law relating to meeting or overtaking school bus by recording violations using an automated system designed to be installed on school buses.

The Senate Local Government Committee approved HB 818 would amend the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code to provide for the notification of plats. The bill would require a summary or copy of the plat application to be mailed to the superintendent of the resident school district within five days of filing the application by certified mail return receipt requested.

The House also passed HB 2432 that would amend the School Code to suspend the mandatory requirements for continuing professional education under Act 48 of 1999 for annuitants who return to the classroom for a period of up to one year. However, retirees who remain in the classroom beyond one year would no longer be exempt from Act 48 requirements and would be responsible for completing the necessary hours of continuing education. At that point, a teacher would have the same number of continuing professional education hours as he or she previously had, along with the same amount of time to complete those hours as existed prior to retirement.

The House Education Committee approved HB 2588 would require school nurses who were not CPR certified by a Department of Health-approved certifying agency by July 1, 2004, to complete CPR training within one year. Persons hired for a position as a school nurse after July 1, 2004 would have to be CPR certified or complete CPR certification through a Department of Health-approved certifying agency within one year of their hire date. (end of report)

IX. INFORMATION ITEM

- A. The following policy is submitted as first reading for approval at the January board meeting: (This was included in error and will be deleted from the next agenda.)
1. Policy # 121 – PROGRAMS: Field Trips/Educational Trips

NEW BUSINESS**XI. NEW PERSONNEL**

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items A-J. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- A. The board approved **Sarah Hett**, Support Technician at the Flex Building, to receive an increase of \$.50 an hour over base rate of pay, for an hourly rate of \$15.67, due to the receipt of her college transcript, effective November 1, 2004.
- B. The board approved of the following **resignations**:
1. **Leslie Ruffo**, Fitness Club, Intermediate School, effective November 9, 2004.
 2. **Chad Strickler**, High School Assistant Wrestling Coach, effective November 12, 2004.
 3. **Megan Battan**, Long-term substitute for Special Education for the first semester of the 2004/05 school year, Brooke Elementary, effective January 11, 2005, or an earlier date based upon obtaining a replacement.
- C. The board approved of the following leave(s) of absence:
1. **Paula Briggs**, Learning Support Teacher at the Middle School, 7th Grade Center, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective November 29, 2004.
 2. **Sharon Hipple**, Biology Teacher at the High School, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective November 29, 2004.
- D. The board approved of **Susan V. Calamaro**, Royersford, PA, as a Long Term Substitute, for the Secondary Guidance position at the High School replacing Heather Steinmetz who will be on a Leave of Absence until the end of the 2004/2005 school year. Ms. Calamaro is a graduate of Eastern University with certification as Secondary Guidance Counselor. Compensation will be set at \$38,450, MS, Step 1, prorated, with benefits, effective tentatively December 13, 2004.

- E. The board approved of **Vicki Ellis**, Pottstown, PA, to continue as the Long Term Substitute teaching 2nd grade at the Royersford Elementary School replacing Amy Bornais who extended her Leave of Absence until the end of the 2004/2005 school year. Ms. Ellis was previously Board approved August 23, 2004. Ms. Ellis is a graduate of Shippensburg University with certification in Elementary Education and Early Childhood. Compensation will be set at \$36,750, BS + 18, Step 1, prorated, with benefits, effective tentatively January 24, 2005 which is the beginning of the third marking period.
- F. The board approved of **Carrie Edwards**, Pottstown, PA, for the Clerical Assistant position at the Intermediate School, 5/6th Grade Center, replacing Marci Benkoski who resigned. Ms. Edwards is currently an Instructional Assistant at the same building. Compensation will be set at \$11.00 an hour with benefits as per the Secretarial Plan, effective December 13, 2004.
- G. The board approved of the **Supplemental - Extra Curricular Contracts at the High School:**
1. **John Holsinger**, Assistant Wrestling Coach, \$3,814, Code D
Replacing Chad Strickler who resigned from the position
 2. **Karen D’Orazio**, Cheerleading Coach Basketball – Winter, \$1,102, Code ½ G
 3. **Karen D’Orazio**, Cheerleading Coach Wrestling-Winter \$1,102, Code ½ G
 4. **Abbey Smith**, Winter Track Club Advisor, \$1,102, Code J
- H. The board approved of the **Supplemental- Extra Curricular Contracts at the Middle School, 8th Grade Center:**
1. **Maria Kardick**, School Newspaper Advisor, Grade 8, \$1,186, Code J
 2. **Maria Kardick**, Computer Club-2nd M.P., Grade 8, \$324, Code M
 3. **Keri Brennan**, Computer Club – 3rd M.P., Grade 8, \$324, Code M
- I. The board approved of the following **Professional Substitute:**
1. **Heather Riker**, Spring City, PA, Kutztown University, Elementary Education
- J. The board approved of the following **Support Substitute(s):**
1. **Mary Fletcher**, Royersford, PA, Playground and Lunchroom Assistant
 2. **Joan Vattimo**, Collegeville, PA, Playground and Lunchroom Assistant

3. **Corey White**, Collegetown, PA, Instructional Assistant
4. **Chad Whitenight**, Red Hill, PA, Custodian

XII. NEW FINANCE

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- A. Spring-Ford is one of the 297 school districts named in the Petition to Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania captioned "NHS Youth Services, Inc. v. Department of Education of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania et al.," docket number 710 M.C. 2004. The petition seeks to interpret certain sections of the Public School Code as it relates to children living in institutions outside of the district and calculation of the tuition payments charged back to school districts. PSBA Insurance Trust has retained the firm of Levin Legal Group, P.C. to defend the lawsuit for all the schools. The selection of a single firm will provide the most effective defense and representation for all of the school districts. Cost will be pro rata basis.

XIII. NEW OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item A. Mrs. Williams seconded it. Mrs. Williams said that Mr. Ciresi asked about having a week off in April. Dr. Coale said that was one of the options. Mrs. Williams asked about what she called a dangling Monday. Dr. Coale said teachers and administrators indicated that many parents go away and that it is difficult to return on that Sunday so having the Monday off was desirable. There was also an option without that Monday off, she added. The board approved the item 7-1 with Mrs. Stokes voting no.

- A. The board approved Option 1 of the 2005-06 student calendar. (Attachment)

XIV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. District Goals: Health and Drug Abuse Prevention
Mr. Pettit eliminated this item from the agenda since Mr. Eckstine was going to make a presentation.
2. Location of Polling on Election Day
Mr. Rocchio said that a lot of parents indicated concern about using the schools as polling places while school is in session and that he agreed. The solicitor said that parent requests to have voters produce ID may have a chilling effect on voting and may be challenged. Mr. Schroeder said that having polling at the schools is a good civics lesson for students but now he realizes that safety is an overriding concern and that he favored not using schools for polling. The solicitor recommended writing a letter to the board of elections sooner than later since it would be difficult

for the board of elections to find another facility would be difficult. Mr. Masciandaro expressed support. Mr. Pettit said to put the issue on the next work session. Mrs. Williams suggested that the board suggest alternative polling places to the board of elections. Mrs. Williams suggested having a policy that addresses mass events at schools and security. Board members debated whether the board was responsible for finding an alternative polling site if the schools were to be closed. Mrs. Williams volunteered to contact the election board regarding alternative sites.

3. Indoor Guard Extracurricular Program:

Mr. Eckstine said that he met with Dr. Coale to request having an indoor guard extracurricular program as the item below outlines. There is a need to be trained year round to remain competitive since other district have indoor programs and training. Mr. Schroeder asked whether facilities in the district would accommodate the program. Mr. Eckstine said a space of 50 feet by 70 feet would be needed. Dr. Coale said multi-purpose rooms would fit the requirement. Dr. Coale said Mr. Eckstine was seeking board approval for an independent contract for \$1 and additional funding of \$500 for flags and application fees. He is putting this item on the budget as well. Mr. Pettit asked for the total cost including the buses and Mr. Eckstine said the cost included five bus trips. Mr. Anspach said busing would cost \$150 to \$200 depending on location. Mrs. Stokes asked how many students would participate. From five to 30 said Mr. Eckstine. Dr. Coale said the total cost would be \$1200 to \$1500 including transportation. Mr. Anspach cautioned that costs should be known for this year and subsequent years. Mr. Schroeder asked for costs for this and next year. Dr. Coale said that Mr. Eckstine sought to have this item placed on the December agenda. Mr. Pettit asked that Mr. Eckstine provide additional information to the board before the December meeting and then it could be placed on the December agenda.

Need for an Indoor Guard for 2004-05. John Eckstine, Band Director, has requested the addition of an indoor guard (extracurricular) for the 2004-05 school year, which would be composed of four instructors who are members of the Spring-Ford Area School District Marching Band staff and are willing to donate their time and talent for the 2004-05 school year. The needs for this indoor guard would be a basketball court-sized area to rehearse (50 feet by 70 feet); transportation expense of one school bus to four competitions and Chapter competition; and reimbursement of gas mileage for the instructors. The uniforms will come from the marching band stock, or would be purchased by students at minimal cost. The floor covering would be donated for one year from Michelle Albright. In addition, there would be cost of less than \$500 for flags and the fee to join the tournament indoor association.

Although John Eckstine is submitting this as a full request for the 2005-06 school year, he asked for special consideration for this year because bands in competition are visually driven and after two years of the establishment of a color guard, the district is still lagging behind. This

would give the district an opportunity for further training of the students and to allow the district band to be more competitive.

XV. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

XVI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was none.

XVII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Marta Pecharo, Limerick. Quality cost-effective education is every citizen's concern. Thanked the board for discussing this issue with the community. Spring-Ford is transitioning from a small rural district and conversation is important. Many people were not aware of the possible construction of new schools. Many Spring-Ford grads have become successful while graduating when the district was bursting at the seams. There are creative ways to address the growing pangs. A dichotomy of haves and have not's is happening both nationally and in the district. People are struggling with feelings of not being represented.

Meg Huntsberger, Limerick Township, child attends Limerick Elementary, and is active in the home and school league. Heard that Limerick Elementary may have voting at the building. When renovations were being done, voting was taken out. Expressed concern that the children's daytime schedule would be disrupted and that there was a safety and security issue. Referred to the incident in New Jersey where someone threw a white powdery substance in the school in the polling place. Mr. Rocchio said there has not been an official request to have polling at Limerick at this time. Mrs. Williams said it was difficult finding adequate space for polling and handicapped accessibility is an issue. Mrs. Huntsberger suggested using churches and that the schools' primary mission is education not providing space for voting.

Allan Dovberg said he never mentioned anything about class size. Objected to Mrs. Stokes referring to his public thrashing of her and said it was an instructive statement. Clarification should be made of the agenda during the telecast of the board meeting since observers cannot tell what is being voted on. He suggested that items on the agenda be verbally summarized so people watching the board meeting from home can tell what's being voted on.

Joe Petrowski said his statement was stated out of context and appreciated the clarification. He got involved after reading Mr. Morgan's comments in the newspaper. Disagreed about the accuracy of the enrollment projections. Last year's tax increase was 4.5%. There was an option for 3.5%. 1% adds up over the years and is worth fighting against. A new law was passed and the district was not sure whether it could borrow money after it took effect without a taxpayer referendum. Doesn't understand economics of borrowing money in August and not moving ahead with the project a year later. Delaying construction by one year will save money. Spring-Ford is the only district in Montgomery County that doesn't have relocatables. Acknowledged the sour taste of having them. Other districts have them to get through a growing spurt. Warminster is selling schools. The district newsletter only discusses class size. Would like to see the status of

the PECO assessment. A lot of money is involved and wanted to know the last time it was discussed. The board should ask residents to get aggressive with state legislators since funding from the state has dropped.

Diane Dodson, Spring City, said that elected officials should put children first rather than have a responsibility to the board of elections. It is cheaper to pay for education rather than repair services for broken adults.

Mary Dehnert, Limerick. Her daughter is a senior and noted that there were 450 children in class. This year that figure dropped to 419. Asked if that is a trend. Dr. Coale said she'd investigate.

Marta Pecharo asked if the board committees have an advisory role or do they have power. Mr. Pettit said they are advisory. Asked if the strategic plan is advisory or policy. Mr. Pettit said the board approves the plan that comes from the strategic committee. So it is not a policy, it's a plan said Mrs. Pecharo. She said the document should change over time. Referred to the mission statement deleting the line providing education in a fiscally responsible manner. The strategic plan and class sizes are guidelines – not policy. Mr. Rocchio said that he participated in the strategic planning committee chose to remove the fiscally responsible line, not the board. Mr. Pettit said the board acts in a fiscally responsible manner.

Diana Dodson said that she understood that the strategic plan is a guideline but that it had community input. Every home and school publishes the committee meetings, the district website posts it, and the meetings are posted in the newspaper.

Kathleen Bryant, Upper Providence, asked about Goal 4 regarding communications. Board minutes from June, July, and August are missing from the district website. Said those minutes contained critical comment about the district. Mr. Pettit said he would have the minutes posted. Mr. Masciandro asked Mrs. Bryant what she thought of the sign in front of the high school, an item that she had pressed for. She said that she loved the sign.

Mr. Schroeder asked whether Dr. Coale had the date of the district-wide facilities committee, which is February 17th at 7 pm in the cafeteria annex. She hoped that the study by the Pennsylvania Economy League would be complete by that time. Mr. Cummins said that taxes in Pottstown school district are much higher than Spring-Ford. Mr. Morgan requested that the date of the facilities committee meeting be posted on the website and she said yes. Mrs. Williams added that board minutes are missing from October 2003. Dr. Coale asked Mr. Spohn to be sure that all the minutes are posted properly on the website.

XVIII. ACTION REVIEW

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. The board voted to adjourn and adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Spring-Ford Goals May 14, 2004

Actions from last meeting:

1. Each committee assigned will begin working their goal and report progress at the board work session.
2. We gave a piece of goal 5 to the Community Relations committee, see below.
3. The Board made a request to the administration to begin creating baselines, especially for goal 5. We are looking for this to be completed in May.
4. Reaffirmed that the original goals should be used as reference.

Process for working goals:

1. Define goals clearly. A good goal is a measurable result. The Board articulates the desired result or end, not the means.
2. The goals are given to the administration for execution. The following are the steps the administration is responsible for:
 - Establishing the baseline or current state
 - Formulating plans for goal achievement
 - Costs or other resource requirements
 - Recommendations on intermediate steps in goal achievement.
3. Board approval is obtained
4. The administration reports progress toward the goal in the district report card.

Goal Action Proposals:

1. Reduce class sizes (Original Goal #1)
Assignment: Property and Facilities Committees
2. Perform Feasibility Study on creation of "in house" alternative educational program (Original Goal #3)
Assignment: Curriculum Committee
3. Student Health and Safety - Reduce drug usage. (Original Goal #2)

Assignment - Extra Curricular Committee

4. Improve public perceptions of the district, Local industry as a district partner and alternative funding. Non-Monetary Employee Incentive: (Original Goals #4, 5, 16)
Assignment: Community Relations Committee
5. Key Measures: (Original Goals #6, 7, 8, 9,12)
Graduation rate increase, Increase percent of graduates going to post secondary school, Establish a listing of our graduates continuing education school placement, Increase scholarships achieved by our students. Graduate acceptance at top universities and colleges
Assignment: Full Board.
Tracking graduates to see how we are doing.
Assignment: Community Relations
6. School Media centers / libraries open weekends, evenings and summer. Create continuing education programs. (Original Goals #10, 11)
Assignment: Curriculum Committee

7. Reduce Childhood obesity:(Original Goal #13)
Assignment: Healthy Choices Committee
8. Increase PSSA and Terra Nova Test Scores: (Original Goal #14)
Assignment: Full Board
9. Plan for District wide Construction needs: (Original Goal #15)
Assignment: Facilities Committee
10. Establish a Blue Ribbon School (Original Goal #17)
Assignment: Curriculum Committee
11. Develop and implement a Five Year Financial Plan (Original Goal #18)
Assignment: Finance Committee
12. District Office replacement (Original Goal #19)
Assignment: Full Board

Referenced below are the original goals:

Spring-ford goals Feb 24, 2004 Version 2

Proposals:

1. Reduce class sizes
 - Establish and maintain smaller class sizes K - 6 to lower levels than present that would be in keeping with the desires of the community as established as a goal, of the Districts' Strategic Plan.
 - Class Size: establish a standard of smaller class size through out the district. Begin with K-6 and move into the middle and high school.
2. Reduce drug usage

Formally Establish a beefed up Drug prevention program that will both quantify and qualify the types of drugs that are prevalent in the SF School district. Include alcohol, inhalants, and over the counter drugs along with all illicit drugs. Formulate a plan that will address these findings, thru awareness programs, counseling programs, possibly integrated with community based programs. Also provide strong prevention and intervention measures. All results to be reported publicly to the Board twice a year.
3. Reduce costs and provide more services for alternative education.
 - Establish a program for alternative Education within the district. Feature career based programs. programs should be of high quality with approved articulation agreements with Technical institutes and various colleges. DO NOT OVERLAP Programs that are available at WCTS. It is important to keep 'OUR STUDENTS' interested in their future. Any program must be flexible, It should offer Flex hours, day care, internships, intense counseling, and ultimately job placement components. We should stop sending our difficult students out of the district, and along with them hundreds of thousands of our communities tax dollars with them. It is time to treat this issue with respect and dignity and be accountable for all of our students.
 - Determine the feasibility of operating our own alternative school.
 - Special needs Children: Would like to see a study on what the district spends on these children and if possible for the district to bring these children back into the district and instruct them in a district building. With the state cutting its share of funding every year, and tuition going up we need to look at this matter and maybe set up a five-

year goal

4. Improve public perceptions of the district
 - Drastically Improve public relations getting positive as well as (possible negative) information to the immediate community expeditiously.
5. Local industry as a district partner
 - Establish a program that beseeches large local industry to be part of District initiatives. This will create an environment that brings fresh ideas (from industry leaders) as well as possible project funding (such as help with technical initiatives, adult evening courses, co-ops etc.
 - Alternative Funding: Interview companies that deals exclusively in marketing and sponsorship/grants to help the district target possible sources of revenue i.e. Merck, Peco, GM , etc., to help advance programing opportunities in the district.
6. Graduation rate increase
7. Increase percent of graduates going to post secondary school
 - Establish a listing of our graduates continuing education school placement.Create diversity guidelines.
8. Increase scholarships achieved by our students
9. Tracking graduates to see how we are doing:
 - Create a graduate report, where are they 10, 20 and 30 years later
 - Track graduates to see where and what careers they pursue.
10. School Media centers / libraries open weekends, evenings and summer
11. Create continuing education programs
 - Renew Spring-Ford's commitment to Life-Long Learning by commissioning an Adult Ed Board responsible for oversight and operation of said adult education separate from the operations and involvement of the SFASD Board and Administration, similar to the model currently in use for many successful years in Owen J. Roberts SD.
12. Graduate acceptance at top universities and colleges:
 - Improve the prospects for Spring-Ford students being accepted at top universities and colleges.
13. Reduce Childhood obesity:
 - Promote healthy lifestyles to combat the growing epidemic of childhood obesity.
14. Increase PSSA and Terra Nova Test Scores:
 - Alarming number of test scores in the below average category in the 9th grade of the terra nova test scores in reading and mathematics. I would like to see these numbers brought into the single digits. The same holds true for the 11th grade PSSA test in mathematics. These numbers also need to be brought up into the single percentages also
- 15 Plan for District wide Construction needs:

- I would like for this board to sit down together and come up with a plan for future needs based on actual numbers. Keep in mind that the state is still looking at some kind of education reform. We do not know what future state funding will be and we may possibly lose the ability to direct the portion of taxes that we collect

16. Non-Monetary Employee Incentive:

- Work with local business to establish a discount or a special rate for example on mortgage and car loans for our staff. This will help in the bargaining process and help to retain good employees.

17. Establish a Blue Ribbon School

18. Financial Plan:

- Develop and implement a Five Year Financial Plan indicating not only debt service and capital reserve, but also projecting future operating costs and additional personnel costs as impacted by the opening of new buildings and renovation of current buildings. As part of this five-year plan, use the information to project future budget and tax increases.

19. District Office:

- Commit to a plan, with a time line of no longer than 18 to 24 months (start to finish), to move district office operations to the Bechtel Road site. If this site is unsuitable, find another.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Dillon
Board Secretary