

The November 25, 2002 work session meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

- Region I: Michael V. Masciandaro, Bernard F. Pettit, and Raymond J. Rocchio, Jr.
- Region II: Martha Magee Block, Janet A. Stokes and Robert A. Weber
- Region III: Ed Cummins, John S. Grispon, and Richard J. Schroeder
- Administrators: Dr. Genevieve D. Coale, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Marsha R. Hurda, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Timothy C. Anspach, Business Manager, and Bruce Cooper, Director of Planning, Operations, and Facilities
- Clerk: Pat Dillon

All board members present.

I. PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Marion presented an overview of the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, one of the top ten bully prevention programs being implemented in the U.S. A team from the Intermediate School was trained by a team from the I.U. A survey was taken of students regarding bullying; the results are being tabulated. Mr. Masciandaro said the safety committee discussed anti-bullying as a security concern. Mr. Schroeder asked what a bullied student who strikes a bully could expect. Mr. Marion said nonviolence was to be advocated. Mrs. Block asked how the program would deal with bullying when it doesn't occur in an adult's presence. Mr. Marion said involving parents from both sides would be helpful. The safety committee talked about expanding the program to 8th grade, said Dr. Coale. Schools that have implemented the program initially seem to experience a surge in bullying reports because of greater awareness, then the rate decreases, said Dr. Booher.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Cummins seconded it. It was approved 5-4 with Mr. Grispon, Mr. Cummins, Mr. Schroeder, and Mrs. Block voting no.

- A. The Administration approved the October 14th committee of the whole minutes.

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Item B. Mr. Pettit seconded it. The board approved it 7-2 with Mr. Schroeder and Mrs. Block voting no.

- B. The Administration approved the October 21st work session minutes.
- C. The Administration approved the October 28th board meeting minutes.

IV. PERSONNEL

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-K. Mrs. Block seconded it. It was approved with the board voting 9-0.

- A. The individual(s) listed below have completed three years of satisfactory service as temporary professional employee(s) and are, 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:

Gladys Thonus Elementary

- B. The board approved of the following **resignations**, with regret:

1. **Alex Miscavage**, 7th grade boys' basketball coach, effective October 30, 2002.
2. **Paula C. Miller**, playground assistant at Oaks Elementary School, effective November 15, 2002.
3. **Robert Pollock**, plumber for the district, effective November 5, 2002.
4. **Michael Young**, Assistant Track Coach at the High School, effective November 12, 2002.

- C. The board approved of **Kelly Kurtas**, Kindergarten teacher at Limerick Elementary School, for a maternity leave of absence effective tentatively February 4, 2003 and will be returning the beginning of the 4th marking period.
- D. The board approved of **Kristin Landis**, Elementary Teacher at Brooke Elementary School, for a Family Leave of Absence effective tentatively December 2002 for approximately eight weeks.
- E. The board approved of **Judy Detwiler**, secretary at Oaks Elementary School, for a Family Leave of Absence, effective December 3, 2002 for approximately six weeks.
- F. The board approved of **Jim Williams**, custodian at the High School, for an extension of an uncompensated leave of absence, effective October 31, 2002 until December 31, 2002.
- G. The board approved of **Lucille F. Candeloro, Ed.D**, Rose Tree, PA, for the newly created Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction position. Dr Candeloro holds a Bachelor of Science in elementary education from Gwynedd Mercy College; a Master of Education and reading specialist certification from Beaver College; certification in supervision and administration from Penn State University; and a Doctorate of Education in reading and teacher education from Lehigh University. Compensation will be set at \$87,000, prorated, plus benefits as per the Administrative Plan, effective December 2, 2002. This position was on the New Personnel list.
- H. The board approved of the following **independent contract(s)**:
 - 1. **Paige Bucy** of Norristown, PA to replace Kelly McFarland of Norristown, PA as a Home Discrete Trial Training Provider for a special needs student which was board approved on August 26, 2002.
 - 2. **InvoHealth Care Associates**, Doylestown, PA, for thirty hours per week of speech therapy for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year (26 weeks) be rescinded. This contract was previously approved on the October 28, 2002 board agenda.
 - 3. **Betsy & Giulio Maestro**, Old Lyme, Conn., to present four (4) assemblies entitled "Author Day". The cost of the program will be \$1,575, plus mileage \$150 for a total cost

not to exceed \$1,725, effective December 2, 2002.
Funding will be from the Artist in Residence Funds.

4. **Therapy Source, Inc.**, Plymouth Meeting, PA to provide speech therapy for 30 hours per week for 26 weeks at a total cost of \$50,700, effective December 2, 2002 until June 13, 2003. This speech therapy service is to fill a current vacancy in the special education department. This cost will be paid from the special education 2002-2003 budget.
 5. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy, Trudy Phillips, Schwenksville, PA** to present six (6) one-hour presentations on "Winter Secrets... Animals in Winter". The cost will be \$75 per presentation not to exceed a total cost of \$450, effective January 7 through January 10, 2003. Funding will be from the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association.
 6. **Ray Gray Productions**, Doylestown, PA to present three (3) assemblies entitled "A Festival of Light" and "A Connecticut Yankee Comes to Philadelphia". The cost will not exceed \$720 and will be effective on December 16, 2002. Funding will be from the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association.
 7. **Jonathan Sprout**, Morrisville, PA, to present an assembly entitled, "American Heroes One". The cost will not exceed \$700 and will be effective on April 15, 2003. Funding will be from the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association.
- I. The board approved a 1.0 Custodial position effective December 1, 2002. Position will be forty (40) hours per week, working at the Senior High School on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM and Saturday and Sunday from 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Position will be assigned for special duties in helping with the activities and emergencies district wide as are all custodial positions. Funding for the position will include monies allocated for a .5 weekend position from the 2000-01 general fund and .5 funding from the 2002-03 general fund.
 - J. The board approved of the following **extracurricular/supplemental contract(s)**:

Alex Miscavage	8 th gr. Boys' basketball Coach	\$2382 F
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Philip Roche, Jr.	SH Asst. Girls' Basketball Coach	\$3527 D
Melanie Volpe	SH 10 th grade Class Advisor	\$1395 I <i>(amount to be prorated from 10/31 until June 30)</i>
Bruce Brobst	SH Intramural Weightlifting	\$ 505 LB
Jamie Scheck	SH FBLA Advisor	\$ 300 M
Elizabeth Fulton	SH Volunteer Diving Coach	\$1

K. The board approved of the following **professional substitutes**:

David J. Frame Collegeville, PA	English West Chester University
Keith Heffner Frederick, PA	Elementary
Patricia A. Hutchinson Royersford, PA	Elementary
Christine M. Kramer Royersford, PA	Elementary Mentally/Physically Handicapped

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items L1-8 and L10-13. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. The board approved it 9-0.

L. The board approved of the following **support staff substitutes**:

1. Mary K. Ciaccio
Collegeville, PA
Instructional/Clerical Asst.
Office Clerical/Secretary
Lunchroom Asst.
2. Carolyn Cryan
Pottstown, PA
Instructional/Clerical Asst.
Office Clerical/Secretary
3. Elizabeth D. Evans
Spring City, PA
Cafeteria
4. Earlean Heywood
Spring City, PA
Cafeteria
5. Sally A. Knab
Collegeville, PA
Instructional/Clerical Asst.
Playground Asst.
Lunchroom Asst.
Cafeteria

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| 6. Wayne K. Knapp
Pottstown, PA | Custodian |
| 7. Claire Kratz
Spring City, PA | Cafeteria |
| 8. Michael D. Manion
Spring City, PA | Custodian |
| 10. Suzanne S. Melcher
Royersford, PA | Instructional/Clerical Asst.
Office Clerical/Secretary |
| 11. Edward R. Nugent, IV
Royersford, PA | Custodian |
| 12. Robin Saylor
Gilbertsville, PA | Cafeteria |
| 13. John S. Vanderslice
Royersford, PA | Custodian |

Mrs. Block made a motion to approve Item L 9. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 8-0-1 with Mr. Masciandaro abstaining.

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| 9. Susan Masciandaro
Oaks, PA | Cafeteria |
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VII. FINANCE

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items A-J except C2 and F. Mr. Pettit seconded the motion. Mr. Schroeder asked why the funding for the instruments were shown to be from two difference sources. Mr. Anspach said an allocation was set aside for one of the elementary schools and one piano was set aside for the new elementary school. Mr. Grispon asked whether the equipment would be out 365 days a year or stored. Mr. McDaniel said it would be stored at the stadium. The board approved the motion 7-2 with Mr. Cummins and Mr. Weber voting no.

- A. The board approved to award to the lowest responsible bidder purchase of 2 Charles Walter Model #1500 Studio **Pianos** for \$5,750 each for a total of \$11,500.00. The bid was awarded to Cunningham Piano Company. Funding will come from the General Fund and Series A 2001 G.O.B.

- B. The board approved awarding to the lowest responsible bidder purchase of 3 Korg Digital Model #C6500 **Pianos** for \$4,467.00. The bid was awarded to Washington Music Center. Funding will come from the General Fund.
- C. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of **NOVEMBER**, in connection with the **SERIES A 2001 G.O.B.:**

1. INTERMEDIATE/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

Arro Consulting Professional Services (3 Inv.)	\$ 4,671.20
U.S. Engineering Lab. Soil Testing & Inspection (2 Inv.)	\$ 10,440.85
*R.M. Shoemaker Co. Applic. #11- General Contractor	\$3,441,982.00
*U.S. Engineering Lab. Soil Testing & Inspection	<u>\$ 6,198.34</u>
TOTAL	\$3,463,292.39

* NEW BUSINESS

- D. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of **NOVEMBER** in connection with the **CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT- Fund 22:**

<u>Phase II – Design Athletic Fields</u>	
McKinney’s Copy Center 16 Prints (Fields)	\$ 75.50
TOTAL	<u>\$ 75.50</u>

- E. The board approved authorization to seek bids for **Pole Vault Pads, Pole Vault Standards and Weather Cover**. Funding will be from the General Fund.
- G. The board approved of the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for 2001-2002:

Spring City Borough	No. 21
Upper Providence Township	No. 30-39

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

Checks #4300-4337	\$156,344.94
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- I. The following Treasurers’ Reports were approved by the board:
 - Treasurer’s Report – October 31, 2002
 - Money Market – October 31, 2002
 - Naturium Fund – October 31, 2002
 - Checking Accounts – October 31, 2002
 - General Fund – Tax Account – October 31, 2002
 - Payroll Account – October 31, 2002

Capital Reserve Fund – October 31, 2002
 Athletic Fund – October 31, 2002
 Investment Schedule – General Fund – October 31, 2002
 Investment Schedule – Capital Reserve – October 31, 2002
 Note of 2000 – October 31, 2002
 Series A of 2001 – October 31, 2002
 Note of 2002 – October 31, 2002
 G.O.B. of 1999 – October 31, 2002
 High School Activity Report – October 31, 2002
 Middle School Activity Report – October 31, 2002
 Cafeteria M/M Account – October 31, 2002
 Cafeteria Checking Account – October 31, 2002

J. The following reports were submitted for the board's information:

Cafeteria Savings Schedule
 Cafeteria Investment Schedule
 Cafeteria Profit and Loss Statement
 Cafeteria Participation Report
 Use of Facilities Report
 Summary Budget Report
 Revenue Budget Report

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item C2. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 7-2 with Mr. Cummins and Mr. Weber voting no.

2. UPPER PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*Power & Comm. Inc. Applic. #3- Data/Phone/Catv Cbl	\$ 68,586.71
*R.M. Shoemaker Co. Applic. #11-General Contractor	\$ <u>687,573.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 756,159.71

* NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items F1-5, excluding F4. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 7-2 with Mr. Grispon and Mr. Weber voting no.

F. 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:

1/.	<u>October</u>	
	Check No. 88591-88664	\$212,044.14
2/.	<u>November</u>	
	Check No. 88665-88920	\$721,570.22

3/.	<u>Check List Held for November Board Approval</u>	
	Check No. 88921-89048	\$83,010.24
5/.	<u>Athletic Fund</u>	
	Check No. 294231-294325	\$14,365.27
	Check No. 294500-294541	\$3,848.59

Mrs. Block made a motion to approve F4. Mr. Grispon seconded it. It was approved 7-1-1 with Mr. Weber voting no and Mr. Schroeder abstaining.

4/.	<u>Plotts</u> Check No. 89049	\$720.05
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VIII. PROPERTY

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved seeking bids for a **video messaging system** to be installed in the **high school**. The equipment includes video projection capability in the cafeteria and character generation equipment the Television Production Facility. The video projection equipment in the cafeteria will also be available for meetings and other purposes. In normal use, the messaging system will be used for relaying of pertinent messages and announcements to faculty and students through large screen projection in the cafeteria and throughout the building on classroom monitors. Funds will come from the Spring-Ford Athletic Booster Club, not to exceed \$11,000.00.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item B. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved 5-4 with Mrs. Block, Mr. Cummins, Mr. Grispon, and Mr. Weber voting no.

- B. The board approved of **Resolution 2002-21** for Plancon A and B for the new K-4 elementary school.

IX. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve Item A. Mrs. Block seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The board approved purchase of a **software package** which will enhance the current scheduling process in the **High School**. This product is a Windows-based master schedule builder, the "Full Control Scheduler." This program is designed to allow users to build the optimum schedule based on the students' requests. It is a

full, 32-bit native code program, able to take full advantage of the blazing processing speed of today's processors (which the High School currently has), as well as maximizing the latest ease-of-use advancements. Several major advantages of this program are: downloads data to a laptop to enable the user to work off-line; decreases the overall time spent to build a master schedule; enables multiple administrators the ability to have training in the scheduling process; and is Windows-based, moving away from the traditional DOS or Green Screen (thus reducing eye-strain on the user). Funding is from the Technology Fund.

Associated Costs

Purchase price:	\$4,500
Initial recommended training:	\$2,200
Estimated annual maintenance:	<u>\$1,620</u>
Total	\$8,320

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item B minus the graphic design minor. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- B. The board approved of the following **new courses** to be implemented in the 2003-2004 school year. Board approval is requested so that administration may begin the processes of planning for curriculum development, budgeting, and inclusion of courses in the students' course guide.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Desktop Publishing (minor)

- 1) **Rationale:** Desktop Publishing is the process of combining text and graphics into one file, called a publication. Publications can include brochures, greeting cards, and newsletters. A desktop publishing application such as Microsoft Publisher, included in the Microsoft Office package, has tools and features that make creating a publication easy.

All students can benefit from having a working knowledge of the applications of technology. Desktop Publishing has the added benefits of having applications in every discipline and curriculum area. Desktop Publishing is a lifelong skill. Desktop Publishing as a minor provides a greater number of students the opportunity to become proficient in computer technology.

Cost:

- a) Initial Curriculum Development (20 hours) \$ 600

AP Computer Science (major)

1) Rationale: AP CS offers high school students the opportunity to expand their knowledge in the field of computer science and experience the same challenges met by college students in an introductory sequence of courses for computer science majors at most colleges and universities. This is a college-level course in which students will study the cross-platform language of Java. The course covers advanced topics such as algorithms, functions and data structures. Completion of this course would enable the student to take the Advanced Placement Exam.

2) Cost:

- a) Initial Curriculum Development (20 hours) \$ 600
b) One Day AP Workshop \$ 100
c) Texts \$1,500

GIFTED DEPARTMENT**Introduction to Philosophy (Gifted minor)**

1) Rationale: Introduction to Philosophy will provide gifted students with a brief overview of Western thinkers from Socrates to Sartre. Through inquiry-based instruction, students will be expected to think critically about the concepts explored by philosophers. Students will be presented with essential philosophical problems, such as free will versus determinism, for example. Once students have considered the problem from their own perspective, they will examine how great thinkers have tackled the issues. Using excerpts from primary texts, students will be introduced to a variety of philosophical writings that have shaped the Western world. The course will also serve to develop critical thinking skills. Students will analyze the structure of arguments and identify weaknesses and strengths.

2) Cost:

- a) Initial Curriculum Development (10 hours) \$ 280
b) Initial Texts \$ 800
c) Initial Materials \$ 75

MATH DEPARTMENT**AP Calculus BC (major)**

- 1) **Rationale:** Spring-Ford's mathematically talented students are beginning their high school mathematics sequence as early as 7th grade. By the end of grade 11, they will have completed AP Calculus AB. AP Calculus BC is a second full year study of Calculus. The course is designed for those students with a strong interest in mathematics and who are pursuing a career that will need more than one year of Calculus.
- 2) **Cost:**
 - a) Initial Curriculum Development (20 hours) \$ 600
 - b) Initial Texts \$1,200

AP Statistics (major)

- 1) **Rationale:** Spring-Ford's mathematically talented students are beginning their high school mathematics sequence as early as 7th grade. By the end of grade 11, they will have completed Calculus AB. Most college majors require a Statistics course. An AP Statistics course would expose our strongest students to another branch of mathematics, as well as provide them with the opportunity to acquire advanced placement college credits.
- 2) **Cost:**
 - a) Initial Curriculum Development (20 hours) \$ 600
 - b) Other – Statistical Software \$1,000

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT**AP Psychology (major)**

- 1) **Rationale:** Psychology/sociology is currently offered as a senior elective course at Spring-Ford. The AP Psychology course will expand upon the information provided in the elective course. It is designed to instruct students about the systematic and scientific study of behavior and mental processes of humans as well as animals.

AP Psychology will provide a challenge to those students who would like to learn more about themselves and others.

The curriculum allows for a major emphasis on different learning styles as well as critical thinking and problem solving skills. Students will be required to analyze and evaluate behavior to formulate an understanding of the human and animal mind.

Many of our students go on to colleges which require a course in general psychology. AP Psychology will allow these students to fulfill their general education credits while still in high school. In order to make Spring-Ford more competitive with other high schools in the area, we need to increase the scope and breadth of our AP courses.

2) Cost:

a) Initial Curriculum Development (30 hours)	\$ 825
b) Initial Texts (30)	\$1,950
c) Initial Materials	\$ 600

SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Reading (minor)

1) Rationale: As the special education curriculum is aligned with the standards and the regular education curriculum, it is difficult to find the time to work with students on skills such as decoding, arrangement of text, and patterns of organization. A reading course for these students will help them in reaching standards such as learning to read independently; reading analyzing, and interpreting; and fluency and comprehension in reading.

2) Cost:

a) Initial Curriculum Development (50 hours)	\$1,450
b) Initial Texts	\$2,500
c) Initial Materials	\$1,000

Transition to Community (major to minor)

1) Rationale: As required by state and federal law, transition programs must be provided to prepare special education students to move successfully from the school setting to the workplace. Social organization on time management skills will be addressed through this course. The focus of this course will be autistic support and life skills support students.

2) Cost:

a) Initial Curriculum Development (10 hours)	\$ 275
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b) Initial Texts	\$1,000
c) Initial Materials	\$ 500

Transition to Work (minor)

1) Rationale: As required by state and federal law, transition programs must be provided to prepare special education students to move successfully from the school setting to the workplace. The skills that will be addressed are organization, pre-employment, time management, employability, and job specific tasks related to various work environments. The focus of this course would include learning support, autistic support and life skills support students.

2) Cost:

a) Initial Curriculum Development (10 hours)	\$ 275
b) Initial Texts	\$1,000
c) Initial Materials	\$ 500

READING, WRITING AND MATH SUPPORT (minor, 9th grade)

1) Rationale: This course will provide additional support for students who scored at either the Basic or Below Basic levels on either the Reading, Writing or Math components of the TerraNova or PSSA Tests and have obtained a final grade in English, Reading or Math below 76%.

Utilizing both the classroom and a computer lab, this course will provide additional support or review in basic Math and Reading skills so that students will be able to demonstrate "Proficiency" upon graduation.

2) Cost: \$7,200

a) Curriculum Development	\$1,200
b) Initial Texts and Materials	\$6,000

NEW COURSES FOR SPRING-FORD SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL 2003-2004

Regarding the graphic design minor, there was a debate regarding teaching with Macintosh computers, which Mrs. Block maintained was the industry standard, versus PCs. Mr. Pettit inquired about the cost comparison between Macs and PCs. Mr. Schroeder asked for costs by the December 2nd meeting. Dr. Coale said that Dr. Hurda was researching costs and would bring it back next week. Mr. Grispon

made a motion to table the motion. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. The board voted 9-0 in favor **TO TABLE** the course.

ART DEPARTMENT

Graphic Design (minor) -COURSE TABLED-

1) Rationale: Merging traditional drawing and design with the computer as a tool is now a foundation skill for artists. Graphic design teaches students to solve creative problems using current technology. Knowledge and skill in computer drawing, painting, photography, and image manipulation are required for all visual art training at the college or professional level.

2) Cost:

- a) Initial Curriculum Development (12 hours) \$ 264
- b) Initial Materials (art supplies) \$2,000
- c) Initial Equipment (software programs) \$2,000

-PSBA REPORTJohn S. Grispon-

Mr. Grispon said that on November 20th, the PSBA Montgomery County Legislative Committee met and will compile its priorities, which will be submitted to the PSBA Legislative Council in February. The Pennsylvania General Assembly reconvened in Harrisburg in a lame duck session. Many bills will be pushed for final passage. The outcome of the November election may diminish the push since Republicans have a majority in both houses of the General Assembly. House Bill 2359 was approved to establish the Office of Community, Business, and Education Partnerships within the Department of Education. Senate Bill 1465 was approved by the House Education Committee to authorize school districts to design a course in character education. The full senate approved House Bill 152 to increase the fine from \$100 to \$250 for overtaking a school bus. It also adjusted the blood alcohol limit for school bus drivers to 0.02%. Penalties include disqualification from driving, loss of license, \$250 fine for first offense and \$500 for subsequent offenses. The Senate Finance Committee approved House Bill 2402 to amend the retirement code to allow anyone to be employed in extracurricular contracts with no loss in retirement benefits. Next week is the last week of the 2001-02 legislative session.

X. CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Cummins asked why the PSBA convention was removed. Dr. Coale said that Mr. Pettit was not able to attend and therefore, she decided not to attend since the superintendent only attends if a board member does. Mrs. Block said it was important to have representatives attend. Mr. Grispon requested that if an item is removed that it be noted on the agenda. Mrs. Block made a motion to approve Items under X. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

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

CODE:	580 Account: Conference/Training, registration, food, and Accommodations
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DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Timothy C. Anspach**, Business Manager, to attend "*Commonwealth Budget Seminar*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit on March 13, 2003. The total cost of the conference is \$95.00 from the 580 account.
- B. **Timothy C. Anspach**, Business Manager, and **Shirley A. Rhoads**, Assistant Business Manager, to attend "*PASBO Annual Conference*" in Seven Springs, PA from March 18, 2003 through March 21, 2003. The total cost of the conference is \$1,556.00 from the 580 account.
- C. **Dr. Leticia M. Rodriguez**, Director of Human Resources, to attend "*Pennsylvania Association of School Personnel Administrators (PASPA) Conference*" at the Harrisburg Marriott in Harrisburg, PA from February 26, 2003 through February 28, 2003. The total cost of the conference is \$685.00 from the 580 account.
- D. **David Willauer**, Principal of Royersford Elementary, to attend "*Building a Presence for Science in Pennsylvania*" in State College, PA on December 4, 2002. There is no cost to the district.
- E. **Mark D. Moyer**, Principal at Oaks Elementary, **Jeffrey A. Kollar** and **William R. Shirk, Jr.**, Assistant Principals at the Senior High School, **Dr. Dennis Booher**, Assistant Principal at the Intermediate School, to attend the "*MCPSA Holiday Dinner*" at the Blue Bell Inn in Blue Bell, PA on December 4, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$157.00 from the 580 account.
- F. **Susan G. McCandless**, Software Technician to attend "*Implementing and Administering Microsoft Windows 2000*" at the

Montgomery County Intermediate Unit from December 16, 2002 through December 20, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$485.00 from the 580 account.

BROOKE

- G. **Jessica Walker**, counselor at Brooke Elementary, to attend "*Anxiety Disorders – Modern Clinical Approaches*" at the Holiday Inn in King of Prussia, Pa on Tuesday, December 10, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$139.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

- H. **Yvonne Kirby**, media specialist at the Intermediate School, to attend "*Follett Library Resources Spring Book Display*" at the Holiday Inn in King of Prussia, PA on Wednesday, April 9, 2003. The total cost of the conference is \$145.00 - \$20.00 from the 580 account and \$125.00 from the substitute account.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- I. **Jennifer Hannis**, teacher at the Middle School, to attend "*Practical Strategies for Working Successfully with Difficult Noncompliant Children*" in King of Prussia, PA on Monday, December 9, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$307.00 - \$207.00 from the 580 account and \$100.00 from the substitute account.
- J. **Russell Mattison**, psychologist at the Middle School, to attend "*Special Education Law in PA – Filling in the Blanks*" at the Philadelphia Hilton (Airport) in Philadelphia, PA on Thursday, December 12, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$210.44 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.
- K. **Yvonne O’Dea**, Music teacher at the Middle School, to attend "*Pennsylvania Music Educators Conference*" at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center in Hershey, PA on April 10, 11, 12, 2003. The total cost of the conference is \$852.00 - \$477.00 from the 580 account and \$ 375.00 from the substitute account.
- L. **Anne Marie Spohn**, counselor at the Middle School, to attend "*What is it about Bullies and What can we do about them*" in Atlantic City, NJ on Wednesday, December 11, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$254.85 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- M. **Jason Meyer** and **Jason Corropelese**, School Police Officers, to attend "*Critical Incident Response to School Violence*" in Myrtle Beach, SC from January 26, 2003 through January 29, 2003. The total cost of the conference is \$1,438.00 from the 580 account.

- N. **Brad Murless**, counselor at the High School to attend "*Emotional Recovery*" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Friday, December 13, 2002. There is no cost for this conference.

- O. **Danielle Stauffer**, indoor track coach and Spanish teacher at the High School to attend "*U.S. All-Star Track & Field/Cross Country Clinic*" at the Trump Taj Mahal in Atlantic City, NJ on Thursday, December 12 and Friday, December 13, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$286.70 from the athletic budget.

BECHTEL MAINTENANCE OFFICE

- P. **Doug Carson**, Maintenance Foreman, and **Tom Melissen**, HVAC Mechanic, to attend "*Indoor Air Quality Seminar*" sponsored by PSBA, at the Holiday Inn in King of Prussia, PA, on Monday, December 2, 2002. The total cost of the seminar is \$120.00 per person for a total of \$240.00 from the 580 account.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-G, excluding B and C. Mrs. Block seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

- A. The following policy was approved:
 - 1. **Policy #716** – Integrated Pest Management

- D. The board approved of Indian Valley Appraisal Company, Harleysville, PA for the preparation of the **probable per acre value for designated land parcels**. The cost of these surveys is \$3,500.

- E. The board approved Resolution **2002-20** regarding PSBA's Public Outreach campaign.

- F. John E. Eckstine, Jr., Director of Bands, and Dave Nicol, Director of Choruses, was approved by the board to take the Spring-Ford Area High School Music Department (Chorus and Bands) on a **five-day trip to the Orlando Festival of Music** from Thursday morning, April 24, 2003 through Monday evening, April 28, 2003. The music department will be flying out of Lehigh Valley Airport in Allentown, PA, and staying in a hotel located in Orlando, Florida, in close proximity to the site of all of the competitions. The music department will compete in Symphonic Concert, Jazz, and Parade Band competitions, as well as Concert Choir, Men's Ensemble, Women's Ensemble, and Madrigals. In addition to the adjudications, the band will tour Universal Studios and Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom, located in Orlando, Florida. The cost of the trip will be no more than \$800.00 per person and efforts are being made to cut the cost of the trip per individual. The Spring-Ford Music Association will provide several fundraisers throughout the school year for the students to earn money towards the expense of the trip. The estimated cost for bussing to and from the airport is \$1,080.00 (based on time of departure and return). We are also requiring participation by at least 85% of the music students to be able to attend the festival. All costs incurred will be paid for by students attending the trip.
- G. The board approved endorsing the following **legislative priorities**:
- G-1 Supports legislation to increase the state contribution for special education services based on actual cost incurred and students served.
- A-2 Continues to support legislation that would increase state aid for the construction, renovation or purchase of buildings for school purposes to a level consistent with measurable changes in construction costs.
- M-1 Supports legislation enabling the utilization of a proper mix of taxes for public education, as determined appropriate by each school district as a replacement for Act 50 of 1998.
- L-2 Supports a mix of dedicated statewide taxes as a means to more equitably and adequately fund education and reduce the over-reliance on regressive local taxes.
- A-6 Supports legislation to extend the dollars available for facilities by granting relief from the statutory requirement for separate prime contracts.

INFORMATION ITEM

Mrs. Block made a motion to delete B1 until January. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

B. The following policy was deleted:

1. **Policy #439** – Uncompensated Leave

Mr. Grispon asked whether the district would accept non-resident students who opt to pay. Dr. Coale said that was true. Mr. Grispon said he did not agree.

The following policy was a first reading with approval at the January board meeting.

2. **Policy #202** – Eligibility of Non-Resident Students

Mrs. Block proposed splitting the committee of the whole meeting into two meetings. Mr. Masciandaro said regular committees still have a place in addition to committee of the whole. Mr. Pettit agreed. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item C. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. The board approved it 5-4 with Mrs. Block, Mr. Schroeder, Mr. Cummins, and Mr. Grispon voting no.

C. The board approved the **continuation of the Committee of the Whole** for the months of January, February, and March 2003.

--NEW BUSINESS--

PERSONNEL

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-E. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

A. The board approved of **Eileen Reilly** as a **Temporary Professional Employee**, for the English position at the High School replacing Arminty Brewer who accepted another position in the district. Ms. Reilly is a graduate of Susquehanna University with certification in English. Ms. Reilly is currently a per diem substitute with the district. Compensation will be set at \$36,500, BS, Step 4, prorated, as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective November 26, 2002.

- B. The board approved of **Susan J. Reber**, Schwenksville, PA for the Instructional Assistant for Technology position replacing Susan Barker who retired. Compensation will be set at \$14.35 an hour, prorated, plus benefits as per the Assistants' plan, effective December 9, 2002.
- C. The board approved of **Judy John**, Limerick, PA, for the 18-hour part-time Food Service Worker position at the Senior High School replacing Kathleen Maier who changed positions. Compensation will be set at \$10.90 an hour, as per the Food Service Worker plan, effective December 2, 2002.
- D. The board approved of the following **extracurricular/supplemental contract(s)**:

Timothy Glass 8/9th gr. Asst. Wrestling Coach \$2832 F
(replace Jason Corropolese who resigned from the position)

- E. The board approved of the following **professional substitutes**:

Denise M. Garrigus Harleysville, PA	Elementary Chestnut Hill College
Sharon C. O'Grady Royersford, PA	Health/Physical Education West Chester University

PROPERTY

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved 6-3 with Mr. Grispon, Mr. Weber, and Mrs. Stokes voting no. Mrs. Stokes asked why a land planner was needed to submit a conditional use application. Mr. Cooper said the firm ensures that there is no conflict of interest between the district, solicitor, and township. This particular firm was chosen since his schedule was open and his fees were comparable to others, added Mr. Cooper.

- A. The board approved of **E. Van Rieker**, AICP to work with our solicitor and Spring-Ford Area School District to **process the filing of a Conditional Use** to Limerick Township for the new elementary school site for a total cost not-to-exceed \$2,500. Funds will be coming from the Winnies Site.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items B-C. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

B. Change Order - G-9 – New 5-7 Intermediate School

The board approved of credit to change the wall thickness on K-K line and to delete rub down of concrete wall surface along K-K line for a total deduct of **\$(28,925.00)**.

C. Change Order – G-10 – New 5-7 Intermediate School District

The board approved of a credit to delete 101 cubic yards of grouting of interior walls for a total deduct of **\$(9,090.00)**.

PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mr. Grispon asked about using Columbus Day as an in-service day. He added that many teachers live outside of the school district, take the day off, and Spring-Ford incurs additional substitute costs as a result. Mrs. Block made a motion to table the motion until next week. Mr. Grispon seconded it. **The board voted 9-0 to table .**

A. The board **TABLED** the **2003-04 student calendar**.

CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items A-B. Mr. Pettit seconded it. It was approved 9-0.

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

CODE:	580 Account: Conference/Training, registration, food, and Accommodations
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HIGH SCHOOL

A. **Jason Meyer**, School Police Officer, to attend *“Threat Assessment In School”* at the Berks County Intermediate Unit in Reading, PA on December 3, 2002. The total cost of the conference is \$26.00 from the 580 account.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

B. **Jane Kulp**, Behavior Specialist at the Intermediate School to attend *“Pivotal Response and Classroom Inclusion for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders”* at the Holiday Inn in Fort Washington, PA on Friday, November 22, 2002. This training is mandated by a

student's IEP. The total cost of the conference is \$90.00 from the 580 account. No substitute is needed.

INFORMATION ITEM

- A. The Spring-Ford Area School District Strategic Plan, "A Blueprint for Student Success," has been completed and will be on the December 2, 2002 board agenda.

XIII. BUILDING REPORTS

XIV. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was none.

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

MOTION TO DISCUSS FINANCE ISSUES

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to activate the finance committee for the purpose of reviewing funding needs for bond funding for the upcoming projects. Mrs. Stokes seconded the motion. Mrs. Block expressed support for having two committee of the whole meetings during budget season. She discussed board governance training and said that she found a consultant in Philadelphia who was willing to provide board governance training for a rate less than the Aspen Group's quote of \$30,000. The board then discussed the differences between having a committee of the whole meeting to discuss finances and having a finance committee meeting. Mr. Schroeder expressed agreement that an additional meeting regarding finances was necessary before January when the meeting with Mr. Murray was scheduled. The board decided to designate the optional December 9th meeting to be the additional committee of the whole meeting. Mr. Masciandaro withdrew his motion. Mrs. Stokes withdrew her second. Mr. Schroeder and Mr. Masciandaro requested a financial roadmap to provide options to Mr. Murray. Mrs. Block made a motion to designate the December 9th optional board meeting a committee of the whole meeting to discuss finance issues. Mr. Cummins seconded it. The board approved the motion 9-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT**Jennifer Welsh, Limerick**

Said she heard that Spring-Ford schools would no longer be celebrating holidays and asked for clarification. Dr. Coale said it was a rumor and offered to meet with her after the meeting.

BOARD SEAT ALLOCATION DISCUSSION

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to approve including Limerick IV in with Region III Spring City/Royersford and that the solicitor move it forward expeditiously. Mr. Pettit seconded it period.

Mr. Cummins said power plays were afoot since it was two weeks before the reorganization meeting. Mr. Grispon said this issue should be advertised and discussed with the public. Mr. Weber concurred that it was being pushed through and that it should be scheduled for January. Mr. Pettit asked to table it now and put it on the agenda on December 9th or in January. Mrs. Block said only three people would be affected: herself, Mr. Weber, and Mr. Grispon. The current plan was: Region I 15,398; Region II 13,534; Region III 7,551. Mr. Masciandaro said his motion would have Region I be the same; Region II 10,873; and Region III 10,212. Mr. Masciandaro said the plan has been out for a year but that he would agree to advertising it. Mr. Schroeder asked Mr. Masciandaro to explain why his motion was better than Mr. Schroeder's plan of moving Mingo II to Region III. Mr. Masciandaro said Limerick would be underrepresented under Mr. Schroeder's plan. Mrs. Block said there was no requirement that this motion be advertised separately but said it would be a courtesy to the public to do so. Mrs. Block made a motion that the board place on the December 2nd agenda consideration of redrawing boundaries for Region III to include the boroughs of Spring City, Royersford, and Limerick IV. If that motion passes, direct the solicitor to move so that it is effective for the next election of board members, she added. Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Grispon offered an amendment to the motion to include Mr. Schroeder's plan of moving Mingo II to Region III. The board voted the amendment down 3-6 with Mr. Rocchio, Mrs. Stokes, Mr. Masciandaro, Mr. Pettit, Mrs. Block, and Mr. Weber voting no.

The board voted on Mr. Masciandaro's motion to add Limerick IV to Region III. The board voted 6-3 to put the motion on the December 2nd meeting agenda with Mr. Grispon, Mr. Weber, and Mr. Cummins voting no.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cindy Boyle, Limerick

She asked that the board involve the public in a vote should the holiday celebration issue arise in the future. She also expressed astonishment that the board would deny students a graphic arts program if Macintosh computers were not available. She said that she is a graphic artist and that she uses a PC. She added that exposure to the program would be beneficial regardless of the computer. She said that she took commercial art in high school as a lark and her teacher encouraged her to pursue it. She also said that the district should survey other districts to see whether they take Columbus Day off.

Mr. Weber announced that the board held an executive session this evening on a legal issue and last week, the board met in executive session on a real estate issue.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. The board adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Magee Block
Board Secretary

Pat Dillon
Recording Clerk