

On November 25, 2013 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Bernard F. Pettit and Willard D. Cromley
Region II: Dawn R. Heine and Julie A. Mullin
Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi and Mark P. Dehnert
Presiding Officer: Thomas J. DiBello
Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin
Business Manager: Timothy Anspach
Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.
Student Rep.: Taylor M. Auman

The following Board Members were absent: **Edward T. Dressler, Jr. and Clara Gudolonis**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Mr. McDaniel introduced the PAC10 Cross Country Champion, Paul Powers, and Coach, Brian Sullivan. Mr. McDaniel spoke of Paul's accomplishments and noted that Paul was the 2013 PAC10 Champion, finished 10th in the district and 20th in the state. Mr. McDaniel reported that with Paul's finish in the state championship he earned the first medal for Spring-Ford since 1966 thereby breaking the 47 year drought.

Coach Sullivan spoke about Paul's goals going into the season which was to win the PAC10 Championship. Coach Sullivan stated that Paul went through the regular season unbeaten. He next reported that early into the PAC10 Championship race there was a jostle between Paul had a fellow teammate causing Paul to lose his shoe. Being determined to not lose time and aware that the shoe had an electronic timer on it, Paul flipped the shoe up into the air, caught it and finished the remaining miles with one shoe on and the other in his hand. Coach Sullivan stated that this act really defined the character of Paul Powers. Mr. McDaniel presented Paul Powers and Brian Sullivan with Resolution #2013-33 in recognition of being a PAC10 Champion.

- A. Presentation of **Resolution #2013-33** commending **Paul Powers** a member of the Spring-Ford Area High School Cross Country Team for winning the 2013 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Championship.

Mr. McDaniel introduced the Spring-Ford Boys' Soccer Team and their coaches and stated that the team finished the year with 17 wins, 3 losses, and 1 tie. He added that the good thing is that Junior Varsity Team was undefeated so the future of Spring-Ford Boys' Soccer is in great hands.

Coach Landis thanked Mr. McDaniel, the Board and Administration for recognizing the team's accomplishments this year. He reported that the team set a school record with 14 league wins. Coach Landis introduced each player and Coach Tier presented them with Resolution #2013-34 in recognition of their being PAC10 Champions.

- B. Presentation of **Resolution #2013-34** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Boys' Soccer Team** and their coaches **Douglas Landis, Nicholas Tier,** and **Brent Kissel** for winning the 2013 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC-10) Championship.

Mr. McDaniel introduced the Spring-Ford Girls' Soccer Team and their coaches and stated the team finished with 24 wins, 3 losses and 1 tie. He added that they earned the first PAC10 Championship in school history. The team received a 5th seed in district play and they did not let that deter them from what they felt they were. Mr. McDaniel reported that the team advanced through the playoffs all the way to the state championship game where they eventually lost a heartbreaker in overtime to undefeated Neshaminy High School 2-1. Mr. McDaniel gave a recap of the highlights of the game.

Coach Chamberlain thanked everyone for inviting them here. He stated that the girl's had an amazing season and these are amazing young women and he really enjoyed coaching them this year. Coach Chamberlain commented that when you play 28 soccer games and come out with a record like theirs, it is quite an accomplishment. Coach Chamberlain reported that the Junior Varsity Team was undefeated so the High School has two great teams. Coach Chamberlain introduced each player and Coach Caggiano presented them with Resolution #2013-35 in recognition of their being PAC10 Champions.

- C. Presentation of **Resolution #2013-35** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Girls' Soccer Team** and their coaches **Sheldon Chamberlain, Tim Leyland,** and **Liz Caggiano** for winning the 2013 Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAC -10) Championship and advancing to the PIAA State Championship Game.

Mr. DiBello congratulated all of the PAC10 Champions for their great accomplishments this season. He stated that as always they continue to make Spring-Ford proud of the way our students represent themselves not only on the field but off the field as well. Mr. DiBello commented that these students are a great example for all our students and he acknowledged the guidance of their parents.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Cirese made a motion to approve Item A and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved the October 21, 2013 Work Session minutes.

IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**Curriculum/Technology Julie Mullin****1st Tues. 6:30 p.m.**

Mrs. Mullin reported that the Curriculum/Technology Committee met on November 6th and reported that on the technology side Wi-Fi access has been rolled out for grades 9-12 and grades 5-8 are scheduled to be rolled out on or around December 2nd.

Mr. Reynolds updated the committee on the technology improvements project with installations targeted to begin this month and completed by March 2014. Installations and upgrades of the new cameras at the 9th Grade Center and the 10-12 Grade Center was scheduled to begin the first week of November. The Curriculum and Technology Departments will be working JLR Consulting to do a feasibility study for a one to one computing initiative for students in grades 9-12. The resulting report will be presented to the Board at the February Work Session. On the curriculum side, Dr. Floyd and Mrs. Bast presented an update on many of the curriculum and instruction items including the PSSA and Keystone Exams, the STEM Project Lead the Way, the Global Studies Program, Spring City Hybrid Learning School and PA Common Core Standards and PA Chapter 4 revisions. The committee reviewed the elementary literacy plan which includes reinstating pre-kindergarten assessment protocols starting in the spring of 2014 as well as a Pre-K Readiness Program. Mrs. Mullin reported that this is a 5 week program that is typically designed to prepare children for kindergarten. Mrs. Mullin recognized Dr. Floyd, Mr. Reynolds and Mrs. Bast for the tremendous work they have done. Mrs. Mullin added that it has been a privilege to chair this committee and work with these devoted individuals. Mrs. Mullin stated that she is proud as both a parent and a Board Member of what has been accomplished.

Finance**Thomas DiBello****2nd Tues. 7:00 p.m.**

Mr. DiBello reported that the Finance Committee met on November 19th where they reviewed the monthly executive report which showed we are on target and staying within budget and there are a few areas where we may actually be doing better than anticipated. Mr. DiBello commented that the committee looked at the cash flow chart of tuition payments for charter schools. Mr. DiBello reported that they asked for additional information in order to see the break out between regular and special education students so that we can plan accordingly for the upcoming season. The PDE Aid Ratio Percentages were presented and where the district ranks in Montgomery County for enrollment and income measures. The committee also looked at the non-public school enrollment. Mr. DiBello reported that the Act 1 index forecast for 2014-2015 budget year is set at 2.1% plus exceptions. Administration presented a worksheet showing tax collection percentage through October for the current and previous years which showed they are in line with the previous years. The committee requested the net proceeds benefit of the per capita tax. Mr. DiBello summarized that they are looking to do research to see what if anything should be done in the future as far as the tax bills go. Mr. DiBello reported that there were some questions regarding the tax filings from the Upper Providence Tax Collector but we are looking forward to the new year and getting things off on the right foot. The committee is also preparing for the setup of the budget for the 2014-2015 school year. Mr. DiBello said they are looking at doing things differently this year and when they set up their budget worksheets and instead of working backwards they are going to start at a 0 % and move forward. Mr. DiBello reported that their goal is to have as minimal an impact as possible.

MCIU**Thomas DiBello****4th Weds. 7:45 p.m.**

Mr. DiBello reported that the MCIU Board met last Wednesday and it was business as usual except there was one announcement and that was of the retirement of Dr. Shiveley

effective at the end of June or beginning of July 2014. Mr. DiBello stated that there will be a process put forward that will start the search, probably after the holidays, for his replacement.

Property

Joseph Ciresi

2nd Tues. 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Ciresi reported that the Property Committee met on November 19th and discussed some upgrades for Royersford Elementary windows and lights as well as the pavilion that is being ordered and is on this evening's agenda. The committee also discussed having a new feasibility study done for a cost of approximately \$5,000 as a study has not been done in almost 7 years. The committee discussed the turf at the stadium with regards to how to get more time out of it before we have to replace it. The committee discussed the old district office which has been listed for sale and has been shown a couple of times. Since nothing has come out of the listing as of yet it was questioned whether a time limit for the sale to occur should be in place and if it does not sell should it be torn down. They also talked about Capital Plans through 2027 and Mr. Cooper provided them with what that would look like and will provide the committee with a way to possibly average it out each year. Mr. Ciresi reported that there was a recommendation to purchase a vehicle for the security team which many other districts have. He stated that this would allow security officers to travel more quickly to district buildings in the event of a problem. Mr. Ciresi reported that there are some trees which need to be taken down in the area of Lewis Rd. and Washington St. as they are dying off and need to be removed. Mr. Ciresi stated that on this evening's agenda is a motion for ceiling repairs to be done at the 9th Grade Center Gym. Mr. Ciresi stated that the committee also discussed that Mr. Cooper and also Mr. Anspach's office will have a key to everything on campus. Mr. Ciresi reported that it was also discussed that there is a need to replace the floors in the 9th Grade Technology Shops and this work will be done soon. Mr. Ciresi commented that the topic of changes to the library/media center were discussed and will be further discussed at the next Property Committee meeting.

Mrs. Heine asked if the trees being taken down would be replaced and Mr. Ciresi replied yes.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin reported that the 4th Annual AP District Honor Roll has been published. There were 477 school districts across the United States and Canada, 10 of which were in Pennsylvania and Spring-Ford was one of those 10. Dr. Goodin stated that you make this honor roll by simultaneously increasing access to Advance Placement courses for a broader number of students and also by maintaining or improving the rate at which AP students earn scores of 3 or higher on the AP Exam. Dr. Goodin added that Spring-Ford has done this for multiple year. Dr. Goodin congratulated everyone who is involved with making this achievement happen especially the AP Teachers at the high school.

Mr. DiBello reported that the Board met in an executive session prior to this evening's meeting to discuss personnel matters and no action was taken.

V. PERSONNEL

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items A-H and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

A. Resignations:

1. **Michael A. Costello**, Custodian; 8th Grade Center and Senior High School – 9th Grade. Effective: November 7, 2013.
2. **Joyce A. Curtis**, Administrative Assistant; District Office for the purpose of retirement. Effective: January 31, 2014.
3. **Ashley J. Habel**, Instructional Assistant; 7th Grade Center. Effective: October 31, 2013.
4. **Maureen C. McCourt**, English Teacher; 8th Grade Center for the purpose of retirement. Effective: December 20, 2013.
5. **Meghan A. Neiswender**, Instructional Assistant; Brooke Elementary. Effective: November 27, 2013.
6. **Trisha L. Smith**, School Nurse; 5/6th Grade Center. Effective: January 31, 2014.
7. **Nicholas A. Tier**, Boys' Basketball Coach; Senior High School – 9th Grade. Effective: October 29, 2013.
8. **Rhonda J. Zimmerman**, Cheerleading Coach; 7th Grade Center. Effective: November 11, 2013.

B. Leaves of Absence:

1. **Catherine W. Cabrera**, Speech Teacher; Oaks Elementary, for an extension of military leave per Board Policy. Effective: December 5, 2013 through March 15, 2014.
2. **Angela L. Grube**, Kindergarten Teacher; Oaks Elementary, for an extension of child-rearing leave per the Professional Agreement. Effective: January 24, 2014 through the end of the 2013-2014 school year.
3. **Christine N. Wike**, 3rd Grade Teacher; Oaks Elementary, for an extension of child-rearing leave per the Professional Agreement. Effective: January 24, 2014 through the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

C. Professional Employee:

1. **Sabrina Abate**, School Psychologist; 7th Grade Center, replacing Vicki Marie Maumus who resigned. Compensation will be set at M+30, Step 6, \$60,800 prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: To be determined.

D. Support Staff Employees:

1. **Laraine L. Livergood**, Part-time Food Service – 3 hour/day; 5/6th Grade Center, replacing Andrea M. Smith who had a change of assignment. Compensation will be set at \$12.91/hour per the Food Service Plan. Effective: October 28, 2013.

2. **Elizabeth D. Robillard**, Part-time Food Service – 3.25 hour/day; Royersford Elementary, replacing Nancy Kearns who had a change of assignment. Compensation will be set at \$12.91 an hour per the Food Service Plan. Effective: November 12, 2013.
3. **Melissa Salamone**, Part-time Food Service – 3 hour/day; Senior High School – 9th Grade, replacing Marci Thurston who had a change of assignment. Compensation will be set at \$12.91 per the Food Service Plan. Effective: To be determined.

New Support Staff Employee:

4. **Crystal McArthur**, Instructional Assistant; 7th Grade Center, replacing Ashley Habel who resigned. Compensation will be set at \$17.36/hour with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: December 2, 2013.

E. Change of Status:

1. **Sarah Pinard**, Part-time (.5) Special Education Teacher; Senior High School, to Special Education Teacher; 7th Grade Center, replacing Jamie Syrylo who resigned. Compensation will be set at M+30, Step 1, \$51,000.00 prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: November 18, 2013.

F. Long Term Substitute Employee:

1. **Daniel Doogan**, Social Studies Teacher; Senior High School, replacing Brittany Dunbar who will be on a Leave of Absence. Compensation will be set at M Step 1, \$44,500 prorated with benefits. Effective: January 2, 2014 through the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

G. Professional Staff Substitutes:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Stephen T. Brassard | Certification: Math, Secondary |
| 2. Colleen D. Brown | Certification: English 7-12 |
| 3. Joel W. Crouse | Certification: Social Studies 7-12 |
| 4. Daniel P. Doogan | Certification: Social Studies |
| 5. Katrina Kilgallon | Certification: Elementary K-6 |
| 6. Nicole E. Slickers | Certification: Grades PK-4 |
| 7. Margaret Taraboletti | Certification: Elementary K-6 |
| 8. Melissa A. Wanamaker | Certification: Elementary K-6 |
| 9. Amy M. Wisniewski | Certification: Elementary K-6 |

New Professional Staff Substitutes:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 10. Lauren N. Plotts | Certification: Elementary K-6 |
| 11. Michael Werley | Certification: Mathematics 7-12 |
| 12. Alicia Harris-Emery | Certification: Elementary K-6, Special Education |

- H. The Board approved the attached extra-curricular contracts.

VI. FINANCE

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

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

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

B. Checks:

1. Weekly Checks prior to Work Session

October

Check No. 151662 – 151742 \$ 535,272.30

ACH 131400147 – 131400149 \$ 136.83

November

Check No. 151743 – 151890 \$ 657,515.42

ACH 131400150 – 131400166 \$ 1,354.74

2. Athletic Fund

October

Check No. 306208 – 306385 \$ 59,629.98

3. *Weekly Checks Prior to the Board Meeting

***November**

*Check No. 151891 – 151942 \$ 769,758.64

*ACH 131400167 – 131400171 \$ 603.74

4. *Board Checks Held for Approval

*Check No. 151943 – 151970 \$ 35,821.64

*ACH 131400172 – 131400202 \$ 14,038.86

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

1. ***OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS**

*Capital Projects Checks held for Board approval

*Check No. 32835 – 32836 \$ 8,523.18

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

1. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide an assembly for kindergarten students at Spring City Elementary entitled "Winter Secrets.....About Animals in Winter". Funding will be paid by the Spring City Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$110.00.

2. **Weller Health Education Center – Easton, PA.** Provide eight, one hour, workshops entitled "Be Web Wise" for parents at all of the elementary schools and the 5/6 Grade Center. Funding will be paid from the Pottstown Health and Wellness Foundation

Grant and shall not exceed \$350.00 per workshop or a total of \$2,800.00 for all 8 workshops.

3. **Matt Novak, Author/Illustrator – Carlisle, PA.** Provide five writing workshops and assembly programs for students in K-4 at Royersford Elementary School. Funding will be paid from the Royersford Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$2,200.00.
4. **Montgomery County SPCA – Conshohocken, PA.** Provide an assembly for second grade students at Royersford Elementary entitled “Pet Care”. There is no cost to the district for this assembly.
5. **Kaleidoscope Family Solutions, Inc. – Bryn Mawr, PA.** Provide Direct Speech and Language Therapy Services for special needs students as per their IEP’s. Services will be provided for 7 hours per day for a total of 57 days at a rate of \$80.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$31,920.00.
6. **The Martin Luther School – Plymouth Meeting, PA.** Provide educational and related services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 30 days at a rate of \$230.00 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$6,900.00.

New Independent Contracts

7. **Intelligent Education, LLC – Lancaster, PA.** Provide analysis of district-wide PSSA and PVAAS data for comparisons to other LEA’s in the IU and the state. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$800.00.
8. **Bureau of Lectures & Concert Artists, Inc. – Lawrence, KS.** Provide an assembly for students at Limerick Elementary School entitled “DEAFinitely Magic”. Funding will be paid by the Limerick Home and School League and shall not exceed \$390.00.
9. **Weller Health Education Center – Easton, PA.** Provide 30 minute nutrition programs to the district’s 6 elementary schools. Funding will be paid from the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant and shall not exceed a total of \$3,150.00.
10. **Todd Kupper – Huntingdon Valley, PA.** Provide an assembly at Limerick Elementary entitled “The Magic of Nutrition”. Funding will be paid from the Phoenixville Community Health Foundation Mini-Grant Program and shall not exceed \$500.00.
11. **Darius Puff, Native American Storytelling – Boyertown, PA.** Provide 4 presentations to students at Upper Providence Elementary School on the history of The Lenape. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$150.00.

12. **Therapy Dogs Inc. – Cheyenne, WY.** Provide 2 Dog Safety Assemblies at Limerick Elementary School. There is no cost to the district for these two assemblies.
 13. **The Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide 5 assemblies for the kindergarten classes at Evans Elementary School entitled “Winter Secrets”. Funding will be paid by the Evans Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$550.00.
- E. The Board approved seeking bids for supplies for the 2014-2015 school year. Supplies would include but not be limited to custodial, art, paper, physical education, science, technology education and furniture.
 - F. The Board approved participating in the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit bid for copier paper and other bids deemed to be advantageous for the 2014-2015 school year.
 - G. The Board approved entering into a contract to reimburse a parent for mileage expenses incurred while transporting a special needs child to New Story Schools in Wyomissing, PA during the 2013-2014 school year. The parent will submit monthly mileage forms and supporting documentation as outlined in an agreed upon contract. Daily mileage for each school day attended shall not exceed 66 miles and will be reimbursed at the IRS allowed rate which is currently 56.5 cents per mile. The district will save approximately \$125.00 per day with this agreement. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$37.29 per day for the days the student attends school.

New Finance

- H. The following Treasurers’ Reports were approved:
 - General Fund
 - Money Market – October 2013
 - PSDLAF – October 2013
 - PSDMAX – October 2013
 - Checking Account – October 2013
 - PLGIT Account – October 2013
 - Investment Accounts & Investment Schedule - October 2013
 - Payroll Account – October 2013
 - Tax Account – October 2013
 -
 - Activity Accounts
 - Elementary Activity – October 2013
 - 7th Grade Activity – October 2013
 - 8th Grade Activity – October 2013
 - High School Activity – October 2013
 - Athletic Account – October 2013
 - Bond Funds
 - Note of 2007A – October 2013

Other Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund & Investment Schedule – October 2013
- Debt Service Fund – October 2013
- Reservation of Funds (Natatorium, Insurance, Retirement) – October 2013

Cafeteria Fund

- Cafeteria Money Market – October 2013
- Cafeteria Checking Account – October 2013
- Cafeteria PSDLAF Account – October 2013
- Investment Account – October 2013

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

OCTOBER

Check No. 11481- 11509	\$ 323,376.46
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- J. The Board approved the following **exonerations** from the per capita tax for the 2013-2014 school year:

Limerick Township Exonerations	No. 001 – 132
Royersford Borough Exonerations	No. 094 – 103
Spring City Borough Exonerations	No. 019 – 022
Upper Providence Township Exonerations	No. 065 – 254

- K. The Board approved the following **additions/deletions** to the per capita tax for the 2013-2014 school year:

Limerick Township Deletions	No. 001 – 1,053
Upper Providence Township Deletions	No. 001 – 180

- L. The Board approved the following **Use of Facilities Permits**:

Permits No. 4630 – 4705

- M. The Board approved authorizing Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 773 Lewis Road in Limerick Township, identified as Tax Parcel No. 37-00-01795-00-4, setting the assessments of the property at \$1,481,000 for tax year 2011 (school tax year 2011-12), \$1,624,000 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$1,767,000 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14) and \$1,838,600 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15).

- N. The Board approved authorizing Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 765 N. Lewis Road in Limerick Township, identified as Tax Parcel No. 37-00-01792-00-7, setting the assessments of the property at \$1,346,400 for tax year 2011 (school tax year 2011-12), \$1,392,000 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$1,488,000 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14) and \$1,521,600 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15).

- O. The Board approved seeking bids for the printing of “**Publications**” (Newsletters – 4 issues, Annual Report, Student Handbooks, Crisis Prevention – Intervention-Postvention Plan Flip Chart, Post-Secondary Planning Guide and Student Planners) for the 2014-2015 school year.

VII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The Board approved the following revisions to current course names for Spring-Ford Area High School for the 2014-2015 school year. Board approval is requested so that administration may include the updated course names in the student’s course guide.

1) **Rationale:**

These course names will be revised to better reflect the content of the course.

2) **Courses:**

<u>Course Code</u>	<u>Old Course Name</u>	<u>New Course Name</u>
231	Algebra II	Advanced Algebra II
232	Algebra II (Concepts)	Algebra II
242	Algebra/Trigonometry	Algebra III/Trigonometry
CCL	Common Core Literacy	Foundations of English
CCM	Common Core Algebra	Foundations of Math

- B. The Board approved the following new course for Spring-Ford Area Senior High School for the 2014-2015 school year. Board approval is requested so that administration may begin the process of planning for curriculum development, budgeting, and inclusion of course in the student’s course guide.

YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE COURSE

1) **Rationale:**

The purpose of this minor class would be to create life-long readers and build an appreciation for contemporary literature, using contemporary literature to encourage critical thinking across the curriculum while focusing on coming-of age and identity issues.

Definition of Young Adult Literature: (Donna Niday, Iowa State University) - Literature written for and marketed to young adults. Young adult literature is usually given the birth date of 1968 with the advent of S.E. Hinton's The Outsiders. Other forms of literature prior to this date may have had young adult protagonists (such as Huck Finn), but it was usually intended for an adult audience. Characteristics of a young adult novel usually include several of the following:

- a teenage (or young adult) protagonist
- first-person perspective
- adult characters in the background
- a limited number of characters
- a compressed time span and familiar setting
- current slang

- detailed descriptions of appearance and dress
- positive resolution
- few, if any, subplots
- an approximate length of 125 to 250 pages

Possible Themes include:

- Challenges of prejudice and “Coming of Age”
- Resiliency
- Family and Tradition
- Journeys: Coming to New Understandings
- Community: Comfort or Crisis

This course would be open to any qualified student.

2) **Staffing:**

Current staff would be utilized if enrollment numbers warrant.

3) **Cost:**

Initial Curriculum Development (45.0 Hours)	\$ 1,350.00
Textbooks/Novels	\$18,000.00

(Estimated costs based upon possible new novels to be approved via the district novel adoption process, to be completed during the spring of 2014)

- C. The Board approved the following new courses for the 8th Grade Center for the 2014-2015 school year and the 9th Grade Center for the 2015-16 school year. Board approval is requested so that administration may begin the process of planning for curriculum development, budgeting, and inclusion of the course.

ALGEBRA IA & ALGEBRA IB COURSES

1) **Rationale:**

These courses will be renaming and involve a more in-depth study of the current Algebra I Course. Currently, much of the first half of Algebra I is covered in the current 8th Grade Math Course. The current 9th Grade/HS Algebra I Course reviews these portions and progresses further into the content of Algebra I. This new IA & IB structure will allow for a more in-depth study and better prepare our students to perform well on the PDE Algebra I Keystone Exam which will be administered (under this new proposal) at the conclusion of the 9th Grade Algebra IB Course.

These courses would be open to any qualified student.

2) **Staffing:**

Current staff would be utilized if enrollment numbers warrant.

3) **Cost:***

Initial Curriculum Development	\$720	24 Hours (12 per person)
Initial Texts	\$4,830	(70 books at \$69)
Initial Materials	\$1,000	
Initial Equipment	\$6,000	(TI 83 Plus Graphing

		Calculator for the 9th Grade Algebra IB Course)
Other (Initial)	\$0	(ebooks for 6 yrs., but is included in the cost of the textbook)

*These estimated costs are contingent on the curriculum to be modified and the estimated needs for materials.

VIII. NEW PROPERTY MOTION

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

- A. The Board approved obtaining an architect to review the ceiling issues in the main gymnasium of the 9th Grade Center due to the delamination of the interior finish. This is the original ceiling from when this portion of the building was built. Once we receive a recommendation for a repair or solution for a permanent fix this work can be completed over the summer months. The architect’s recommendation will be brought back to the Property Committee for review. The total cost for the architect’s review shall not exceed \$2,000.00 and will be paid from the Maintenance Budget.

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items A-J and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

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

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Bruce W. Cooper**, Director of Planning, Operations and Facilities, to attend the “*PASBO Annual Conference*” in Hershey, PA from March 11 through March 14, 2014. The total cost for this conference is \$800.00 (registration, mileage, lodging and meals) from the Maintenance and Operations Budget. No substitute is needed.
- B. **Stephen Reynolds**, Director of Technology, **Sue Gallagher**, Manager of Technical Operations, **Kathy Cox**, Software Specialist, to attend “*Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo and Conference (PETE&C)*” in Hershey, PA from February 9 through February 12, 2014. The total cost for this conference is \$2,124.00 (registration, mileage, lodging and meals) from the Technology Budget. No substitutes are needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- C. **Barbara O’Brien**, Media Specialist and Department Chair, to attend “*Pennsylvania School Librarian’s Association Conference*” in Hershey, PA on May 1 and May 2, 2014. The total cost for this conference is \$742.00 (registration, mileage, lodging, and meals). No substitute is needed.

- D. **Autumn Herbst** and **Indira Pothukuchi**, Teachers, to attend “*MCCC Gateway to College Creative Teaching Strategies Educator Conversation*” at the Montgomery County Community College in Blue Bell, PA on November 14, 2013. There is no cost to the district for this conference as all fees and substitute fees are being paid by the MCCC Gateway to College Program.
- E. **Alison Reichwein** and **Todd Roussey**, Teachers, to attend “*Eastern PA Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Conference*” at Wilson High School in Reading, PA on November 26, 2013. The total cost of this conference is \$35.03 (mileage) from the 580 account. No substitutes are needed.
- F. **Seth Jones**, Music Teacher and Band Director, to attend the “*Midwest Band & Orchestra Clinic*” in Chicago, Illinois from December 19 through December 20, 2013. The total cost to the district for this conference is \$300.00 for a substitute for two days. All other fees are being paid by Mr. Jones.

8TH GRADE CENTER

- G. **Amanda Burr**, Teacher, to attend “*Wilson 3 Day Applied Methods*” at the MCIU in Norristown, PA from March 10 through March 12, 2014. The total cost of this conference is \$1,235.00 (registration and a substitute for 3 days) from the Special Education Budget.

New Conferences and Workshops

- H. **Dr. David R. Goodin**, Superintendent of Schools, **Dawn Heine**, **Kelly Spletzer** and **Todd Wolf**, Board Members, to participate in the PSBA Web Conference “*Negotiating with a Purpose: Are You Ready for Bargaining?*”. This web conference will take place on December 17, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the main conference room of the Administration Building. The total cost for this web conference is \$99.00.
- I. **Cathy Bradfield** and **Sherri Shaner**, School Nurses, and **Delores McCarter**, Guidance Counselor, to attend “*BrainSTEPS: Supporting Students with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) for Post-High School Transition*” at PaTTAN in King of Prussia, PA on December 3, 2013. The total cost for this conference is \$300.00 for two school nurse substitutes.
- J. **Virginia Jones**, IT Support Technician, to attend “*Capture & Share Instruction with Screencast*” at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on the afternoon of December 12, 2013. The total cost of this conference is \$70.00 (registration and mileage) from the Technology Budget.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- A. The following policies were approved:

1. Policy #114 - PROGRAMS: Gifted Education
2. Policy #810.1 – OPERATIONS: Video Monitors

- B. The Board gave approval for the High School Girls' Softball Team to accept the invitation to participate in the KSA Events, Inc. ESPN World of Sports Softball Spring Training in Orlando, Florida. The team will depart from Philadelphia the evening of Tuesday, March 18, 2014 and arrive back in Philadelphia, Sunday morning, March 23, 2014. The program is for varsity level competition and the team will be scheduled to participate in two approved scrimmages and two regular season contests which are part of the 2014 schedule that allows a maximum of 20 contests and 2 scrimmages as per PIAA by laws. The High School Softball Program and staff will conduct fund raising events from November, 2013 through March, 2014 to help defray the costs of this unique opportunity. The cost per student-athlete will be approximately \$855.00 plus airfare. All travel reservations and itineraries are being handled by KSA Events, Inc., Orlando, FL. Student-athletes will miss a total of three schools days, March 19-21 and will be responsible for all missed work. The total cost to the district will be \$900.00 for substitutes for three days for Mr. Hughes and Mr. Corroplese.

XI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was no report.

XII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Mr. DiBello commented that at the last meeting he brought up a motion to allow Board Members to Skype in during the Reorganization Meeting and during the week he was contacted by a few Board Members that had conflicts during the week.

Mr. DiBello made a motion to set the Reorganization Meeting until Saturday at 9 a.m. on December 7th. Mr. Pettit seconded the motion.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he cannot attend the meeting on that day as he scheduled around the meeting being on December 2nd so he is against this motion and the meeting should be kept on the date that it was set for.

Mr. DiBello asked if there was any public comment and there was none.

The motion passed 6-1 with Mr. Dehnert voting no.

There were no public to be heard this evening.

Mr. Cromley reported that last Thursday night there was recognition of the Spring-Ford Area High School Marching Band. He stated that he wanted to thank publicly District Administration, Dr. Goodin, Dr. Roche, High School Administration grades 9-12, Mr. Nugent, Dr. Weidenbaugh, Dr. Colyer, Mr. Reigner, Mrs. Ruppert, and also Seth Jones. Mr. Cromley thanked Seth for serving as the Master of Ceremonies that evening. He also thanked all of Mr. Jones' staff. Mr. Cromley recognized the students who are members of the marching band for their discipline, commitment, enthusiasm and their daily rigor. Mr. Cromley reported that in his 43 years in this community, this is the first time where we actually took an evening and the school community and the community at-large came to recognize these individuals. Mr. Cromley again thanked everyone for their efforts in this celebration and after all of these years it is certainly well-deserved.

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Mr. Dehnert asked, with the change in the day of the reorganization meeting, if it will still be available for Skyping in since he will be out of town that weekend. Mr. DiBello replied yes.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Mullin made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Heine seconded. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary