

The December 1, 2003 board reorganization 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:	Raymond J. Rocchio, Jr. and Michael Masciandaro
Region II:	Janet A. Stokes
Region III:	Ed Cummins and Richard J. Schroeder
Presiding Officer:	Bernard F. Pettit
Solicitor:	Marc Davis, Esq.

In addition, former board members, Martha Magee Block and John S. Grispon were in attendance at the meeting.

REORGANIZATION MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL BY BOARD SECRETARY

Mr. Schroeder called the meeting to order since he was the only active board officer at that point and asked the secretary to note the roll.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Barb Hagan, Limerick Township
Began commenting on "minutes of last week." The solicitor told her that comments at this point were to be only on the reorganization meeting and that her comments would be welcome later during the business meeting.

Martha Block, Limerick Township
Announced her resignation from position as board secretary under Section 404 of public school code.

V. ELECTION OF TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE MEETING

The solicitor reminded the board that nominations do not require a second. Mr. Masciandaro nominated Rick Schroeder as temporary president. Mrs. Stokes made the motion to close the nominations. Mr. Pettit seconded it. Nominations were closed, announced Mr. Schroeder. Mr. Schroeder announced that he would continue as temporary president.

VI. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION

Mr. Schroeder read the certificates of election for all new school board directors in alphabetical order: Joseph Ciresi, Donna Williams, and Christopher Wise. (Attachment)

The solicitor read salient sections of a letter from Christopher Wise resigning from his position. Mr. Wise attributed his resignation to “unforeseen personal issues” and that he tendered his resignation with great reluctance.

VII. OATH OF OFFICE FOR RE-ELECTED AND NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS ADMINISTERED BY THE HONORABLE JUDGE WALT GADZICKI

A. OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

The Honorable Judge Walt Gadzicki swore in the following new board members:

Region III: Joseph Ciresi

Region II: Donna Williams

Mr. Schroeder congratulated Mr. Ciresi and Mrs. Williams and invited them to take their seats with the board.

B. OATH OF OFFICE FOR OF REELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

The Honorable Judge Walt Gadzicki swore in the following re-elected board members:

Region I: Bernard Pettit and Raymond Rocchio, Jr.

Mr. Schroeder congratulated Mr. Pettit and Mr. Rocchio.

VIII. REORGANIZATION

A. Nominations and Election for the Office of **President Conducted By Temporary President.**

Mr. Masciandaro nominated Mr. Pettit as president. Mr. Rocchio made a motion to close nominations. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. Mr. Schroeder announced that nominations were closed. The board voted 7-1 to elect Bern Pettit as board president with Mr. Cummins voting no. Mr. Schroeder congratulated Mr. Pettit. Mr. Pettit took the helm of the meeting.

B. Nominations and Election for the Office of **Vice President Conducted by Newly Elected President**

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to nominate Mr. Masciandaro as vice-president. Mr. Rocchio made a motion to close nominations. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. Mr. Pettit announced that nominations were closed. The board voted 6-2 to elect Michael Masciandaro as board vice-

president with Mr. Cummins and Mrs. Williams voting no. Mr. Pettit congratulated Mr. Masciandaro.

C. Nominations and Election for the Office of **Secretary**

Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to nominate Mrs. Stokes as secretary to serve until December 2004 to complete Mrs. Block's term. Mr. Rocchio made a motion to close nominations. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. Mr. Pettit announced that nominations were closed. The board voted 6-2 to elect Janet Stokes as board secretary with Mr. Cummins and Mrs. Williams voting no. Mr. Pettit congratulated Mrs. Stokes.

D. Motion for Authorization to Use Present Signature Stamp until a New One is Prepared (if needed) – Mr. Pettit said the present signature block will continue to be used.

E. Members of the Joint Committee for the Area Vocational-Technical School serve three-year terms. One term expires each year to assure continuity in the operation of the joint program. The most recent representatives and the date of expiration for their terms is as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>
Martha Magee Block	2005
Richard J. Schroeder	2004
Robert A. Weber	2003/6

Action is required to elect or re-elect members to the vacancies, which occur this year, namely the seats held by Martha Magee Block and Robert A. Weber. Mr. Schroeder asked for a show of hands of those interested in being nominated for these positions. Mrs. Stokes and Mr. Ciresi raised their hands. Mr. Schroeder nominated Janet Stokes for the position that expires in 2005. The board voted unanimously for her. Mrs. Stokes nominated Joe Ciresi for the position that expires in 2006. The board voted unanimously for him. Mr. Pettit congratulated and thanked them both.

F. The President should **designate** a member to serve on the **Montgomery County School Directors Legislative Committee**. This committee is sponsored by the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors to provide a forum in which local directors can learn about legislative issues, which can affect education in Montgomery County. Mr. Grispon presently served in this capacity. Mr. Pettit appointed Joe Ciresi to this post and Mr. Ciresi accepted it.

G. The Board should also appoint a member to serve on the **MCIU board**. The next meeting of the MCIU board will be on December 3, 2003. Mr. Grispon presently served in this capacity. No board member showed interest in serving in this capacity. The solicitor said it could be left vacant until someone is found. The position would require attendance at monthly meetings.

- H. The Board should also appoint a **PSBA Legislative Chairperson** to represent the Spring-Ford Area School District. Mr. Grispon currently served in this capacity. Mr. Rocchio indicated interest in the post and Mr. Pettit appointed him to it.
- I. Mr. Pettit appointed Ed Cummins to be the representative to the **American Legion**.
- J. The board approved the attached Listing of Work Session/Board Meeting Dates for 2004 with a change in the June dates with the board meeting occurring on June 14 and the board meeting occurring on June 21 to reflect the budget cycle. Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve the amended calendar and Mrs. Stokes seconded it. The board approved the amended calendar unanimously. (ATTACHMENT)

The board adjourned the reorganization meeting at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Stokes
Board Secretary

Pat Dillon
Recording Secretary

The December 1, 2003 board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I:	Raymond J. Rocchio, Jr. and Michael Masciandaro
Region II:	Janet A. Stokes and Donna L. Williams
Region III:	Joseph P. Ciresi, Ed Cummins and Richard J. Schroeder
Presiding Officer:	Bernard F. Pettit
Solicitor:	Marc Davis, Esq.

In addition, former board members, Martha Magee Block and John S. Grispon were in attendance at the meeting.

Mr. Pettit addressed public comment on agenda items and asked the board's input regarding putting a 2-minute limit on public comment and allowing questions. The consensus of the board appeared to support a simple question and follow-up question with no formal time limitation. However, if the question cannot be answered at the meeting or if a debate ensues, then the board would refer it to a later time.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Barb Hagan, Limerick Township

Asked if the person hired for the public liaison position would be able to comment on pending police investigations and mold issues. Mr. Pettit said he did not have an answer. Mrs. Hagan said Dr. Coale's salary was not on the agenda last week.

Alan Dovberg, Limerick

Congratulated the new board members. Supported having the public have the right to ask questions without a limit as long as the person doesn't ramble. Asked if there would be a 2- or 5-minute limit. Mr. Pettit said that the board concurred that the 2-minute limit is too arbitrary and that the public would be able to speak within a reasonable amount of time. The solicitor suggested putting a cap on total public discussion rather than individuals.

II. PERSONNEL

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

- A. The board approved of the resignation of **Susan Godshalk**, 2nd grade teacher at Brooke Elementary School, effective January 21, 2004.
- B. The board approved of the following **Leave of Absences**:

1. **Tom Bennett**, Custodian at the Middle School for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective November 18, 2003.
 2. **Stephanie Frantz**, elementary teacher at Brooke Elementary, for a leave of absence in accordance with the professional agreement effective tentatively February 2, 2004 for the remainder of the 2003-04 school year.
- C. The board approved of an independent contract for **Terrell Stafford, Princeton, NJ**, in connection with the 2004 Middle School Jazz Festival Weekend. The total cost will not exceed \$9000 which includes hotel accommodations, transportation and meals, effective March 19 & 20, 2004. Funding will be from the Middle School General Music Fund, costs exceeding school district budgeted funding will be paid by the Spring-Ford Music Association.

Mrs. Williams asked why the job description for the instructional assistant changed. Dr. Rodríguez said new programs in special education required a wider variety of responsibilities and physical requirements than previously needed.

- E. The board approved of the Revised Job Description for Instructional Assistant (attached).
- F. The board approved of the following extra-curricular/supplemental contract(s) for the Middle School:
1. Alicia Costanzo, 8/9th Grade Cheerleading Coach for Winter - \$858, code H ½
- G. The board approved of the following Support Staff substitutes:
1. Jeanne Funk, Royersford, PA, Instructional Asst. for Technology
 2. Henry Galecki, Green Lane, PA, Custodian/Maintenance

Mrs. Stokes asked if Item D was funded before. Dr. Rodríguez said it was a difficult position to fill and it was funded as extracurricular previously. Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Item D. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. It was approved 6-2 with Mr. Cummins and Mr. Rocchio voting no.

- D. The board approved of an independent contract for **Duane DeWire, Northumberland, PA**, to provide the Senior High School Marching Band with visual design programs for the 2003-04 school year. Compensation will be \$170.36 per day for 25 days, not to exceed \$4,259. Funding will be from the 2003-04 high school extracurricular budget.

IV. FINANCE

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Items A and B. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

A. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of **DECEMBER**, in connection with the **SERIES G.O.B. 2000:**

1. UPPER PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Bound to Stay Bound	1,004 Library Books	\$	14,200.26
Virco	Lightweight Folding Table	\$	177.68
Virco	81 Student Desks	\$	<u>4,977.45</u>
	TOTAL	\$	19,355.39

B. 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:

1. <u>Athletic Fund- November</u>	
Check No. 295452-295567	\$24,498.67

V. PROPERTY

Mr. Schroeder asked when the fields would be ready. Mr. Anspach offered to check. Mr. Cummins made a motion to approve Item A. Mrs. Williams seconded it. It was approved 7-1 with Mr. Rocchio voting no.

A. The board approved of the low bid for the construction of the Oaks Baseball Field at a cost of \$14,000 and Limerick Baseball Field at a cost of \$14,000 for a total not to exceed \$28,000 to J. Margerison Landscaping, Inc. Both ball fields were approved as par of the 2003-04 General Fund Budget.

VI. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mr. Cumins made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Masciandaro seconded it. The board approved it 8-0.

A. The board approved **Lucille F. Candeloro**, Ed.D. to participate in the PSSA Item Review Team. This team will work with contractors to revise the PSSA and it replaces the state Reading Assessment Advisory Committee of which Dr. Candeloro was a member. The first PSSA Item Review Team meeting will take place January 13 through 15, 2004, in Camp Hill, PA. All costs will be funded through the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

VII. CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

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

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

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

- A. **Gary L. Spohn**, Director of Technology and **Sarah K. Sacks**, Software Specialist, to attend "*Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo and Conference*" in Hershey, PA on Monday, February 23, 2004. This expo and conference will provide attendees with information about new and emerging technologies in networking and educational technology. The total cost of the conference is \$285.00 from the 580 account.
- B. **Tina Weidenbaugh**, Assistant Principal, to attend "*Principals' Technology Leadership Academy*" at the Bucks County Intermediate Unit in Doylestown, PA on Wednesday, January 21, 2004 and at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Monday, April 19th, Thursday, April 29th, Wednesday, May 5th and Thursday, May 6th, 2004. This conference will provide leadership training and technology skills which focuses on effective instructional and administrative application of technology. The total cost of the conference is \$268.00 from the 580 account.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Masciandaro requested that the new board members have time to review the policies and approve them all at the January meeting. Several other board members agreed and Mr. Pettit agreed.

- A. The following policies were submitted as a second reading for approval in January:
 - 1. Policy # 127 – PROGRAMS: Assessments
 - 2. Policy # 251 – PUPILS: Homeless Students
 - 3. Policy # 323 - ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES: Tobacco Use
 - 4. Policy # 423 – PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYESS : Tobacco Use
 - 5. Policy # 424 – PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES: Personnel Files
 - 6. Policy # 523 – CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: Tobacco Use
 - 7. Policy # 524 – CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: Personnel Files
 - 8. Policy # 801 – OPERATIONS: Public Records
 - 9. Policy # 826 – OPERATIONS: Privacy of Health Information
 - 10. Policy # 904 – COMMUNITY: Public Attendance at School Events
 - 11. Policy # 919 – COMMUNITY: District/School Report Cards

IX. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. The following policies were submitted as a first reading for approval at the January board meeting:
1. Policy # 436 – PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES: Personal Leave
 2. Policy # 536 – CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: Personal Leave
 3. Policy # 404 – PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES: Employment of Professional Employees
 4. Policy # 504 – CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: Employment of Classified Employees
 5. Policy # 209 – PUPILS: Health Examinations/Screenings
 6. Policy # 222 – PUPILS: Tobacco Use
 7. Policy # 227 – PUPILS: Drug Abuse

X. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The solicitor suggested treating Mr. Wise's resignation rather than as an appointment and find a replacement within 30 days. He added that school code does not stipulate a method of selection and the board could either choose someone here now or interview applicants. Mr. Cummins suggested the interview process. Mrs. Williams requested choosing someone residing in Region II since Chris Wise lived in the Limerick area. The solicitor suggested advertising before Christmas. The board agreed and directed Dr. Coale to run an ad for one week and stipulate that resumes be submitted by December 15th.

Mr. Masciandaro also suggested announcing the vacancy to people viewing the board meeting broadcast this evening. Mrs. Williams explained the borders of Region II and said that applications should be sent to the district office by December 15th at 4 p.m.

MOTION

The solicitor requested that Simone Jaffe be hired to help appraise in the condemnation process. He said Simone Jaffe submitted a proposal to do site selection, review basic information, determine reasonable development, and coordinate with his firm for a fee of \$9,088 plus expenses of \$450 for a total not to exceed \$9,538 without prior reauthorization. A motion will be on the next board agenda. Mr. Cummins said that the quote was very reasonable. Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve the proposal. Mrs. Stokes seconded it.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

The board voted unanimously for the proposal.

Mrs. Stokes asked if the curriculum committee would review and have a uniform policy for qualification for the honor roll since it varies from school to school at this time. Mr. Pettit asked for consensus and no one objected.

Mr. Schroeder asked Mr. Pettit to fill the list of committees with new members by December 22nd.

Mrs. Stokes suggested that guidance counselors loop with the same class from 7th, 8th, and 9th grade. Mr. Pettit asked the board for consensus and no one objected. Mr. Schroeder supported the idea and wanted to find out what guidance counselors do on a daily basis. Mr. Pettit agreed and asked for consensus. No one objected. Dr. Coale said that the administration has been looking into the guidance department and had additional information for the curriculum committee.

Mr. Pettit said that the board would break into executive session on personnel.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Allan Dovberg, Limerick

Mr. Dovberg said that the word "principle" used in a job description was not correctly used.

Mr. Rocchio said a letter of intent should be adequate to pursue the open board seat and the board agreed after some discussion – a letter of intent could be treated as a resume, said Mr. Pettit. So a letter of intent and/or resume would be acceptable, he added.

Mr. Pettit announced that the board would break into executive session on personnel. The board broke for an executive session at 8:48 p.m. The board returned from executive session at 9:43 p.m.

Mr. Rocchio made a motion to amend the superintendent's salary to \$130,200 retroactive to July 1st. The board voted 6-2 in favor with Mrs. Williams and Mr. Schroeder voting no.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Pettit called for public comment. There was none.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The board adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Stokes
Board Secretary

Pat Dillon
Recording Secretary