

On December 6, 2004, the board's 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 Rocchio, Jr.
- Region II: Ammon Morgan, Jr., Janet A. Stokes,
- Region III: Richard Schroeder and Ed Cummins
- Presiding Officers: Bernard F. Pettit/Michael Masciandaro
- Solicitor: Marc B. Davis, Esq.

AGENDA

REORGANIZATION MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

V. ELECTION OF TEMPORARY PRESIDENT –

Roll call vote to elect Temporary President.
(No second needed for nomination. A second is needed to close the nominations.) Secretary declares board member elected Temporary President who assumes the chair.

Mr. Pettit called the meeting to order and stated the purpose of the meeting as being to elect board officers for the coming year. He called for the election of a temporary president. Mr. Masciandaro made a motion to nominate Mr. Pettit. Mr. Schroeder made a motion to close nominations. Mr. Cummins seconded it. The board voted 9-0 to close nominations. The board voted 9-0 to elect Mr. Pettit as temporary president.

VI. ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT

Roll call vote to elect the President.
(No second needed for nomination. A second is needed to close the nominations.) Temporary President declares board member elected President. President is now seated.

Mr. Cummins made a motion to nominate Mr. Schroeder. Mr. Morgan made a motion to nominate Mr. Masciandaro. Mr. Cummins made a motion to close nominations. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. The board voted 9-0 to close nominations. The board voted 5-3 to elect Mr. Masciandaro as president with Mr. Ciresi, Mr. Schroeder, and Mrs. Stokes voting for Mr. Schroeder. Mr. Pettit pronounced Mr.

Masciandaro the new board president. Mr. Masciandaro thanked the board and took his seat as president.

VII. ELECTION OF BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

Roll call vote to elect the Vice President
(No second needed for nomination. A second is needed to close the nominations.) President declares board member elected Vice President.

Mr. Cummins made a motion to nominate Mr. Schroeder. Mr. Pettit made a motion to nominate Mrs. Stokes. Mr. Morgan made a motion to Mr. Rocchio. Mr. Rocchio withdrew his nomination but expressed his appreciation. Mr. Pettit made a motion to close nominations. Mr. Cummins seconded it. The board voted 6-2 to elect Mr. Schroeder with Mr. Pettit and Mrs. Stokes voting for Mrs. Stokes. Mr. Masciandaro declared Mr. Schroeder as vice president.

VIII. Nominations and Election to Any Office Vacated by the Election of a President or Vice President – The solicitor said this item did not apply since Spring-Ford is now a second class district with secretary and treasurer not members of the board and so no other seats would be vacated.

IX. Motion for Authorization to Use Present Signature Stamp until a New One is Prepared (if needed) – Not needed

X. 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:

Richard J. Schroeder	2004
Janet A. Stokes	2005
Joseph P. Ciresi	2006

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to re-elect Mr. Schroeder. Mr. Pettit seconded it. The board voted 8-0 to re-elect Mr. Schroeder.

XI. 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. Ciresi presently serves in this capacity and Mr. Schroeder serves as alternate. Mr. Masciandaro asked Mr. Ciresi and Mr. Schroeder if they would continue in this capacity and they agreed to do so.

XII. The Board should also appoint a member to serve on the MCIU board. Mr. Cummins presently serves in this capacity and Mr. Morgan serves as alternate. Mr. Masciandaro asked Mr. Cummins if he would continue in this capacity and he agreed to do so. Mr. Cummins said there was no need for an alternate and Mr. Morgan agreed. Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Mr. Cummins. Mr. Pettit seconded it. The board voted 8-0 to re-appoint Mr. Cummins.

- XIII. The Board should also appoint a **PSBA Legislative Chairperson** to represent the Spring-Ford Area School District. Mr. Rocchio currently serves in this capacity. Mr. Masciandaro asked Mr. Rocchio whether he would continue in this capacity and he indicated that he would. Mr. Masciandaro appointed him and asked the board if this was okay.
- XIV. Approval is recommended for the attached Listing of Work Session/Board Meeting Dates for 2005 (ATTACHMENT) Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the attached meeting dates. Mr. Morgan seconded it. Mr. Schroeder asked about the special meeting of the full board to discuss the budget. The board voted 8-0 in favor of the calendar with the special meeting added.
- XV. Adjournment -- Mrs. Stokes made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Pettit seconded it. The board adjourned.

2005 SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES

**SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

**ALL WORK SESSIONS AND BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN
THE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA UNLESS DESIGNATED
OTHERWISE AT 7:30 P.M.**

	<u>WORK SESSION</u>	<u>BOARD MEETING</u>
JANUARY	18 (Tues)	24
FEBRUARY	22 (Tues)	28
MARCH	21	29 (Tues)
APRIL 14 -- special board meeting at 7 pm to discuss budget		
APRIL	18	25
MAY	16	23
JUNE	13	20
JULY	Emergency Only as Called by the Board President Or Superintendent of Schools	
AUGUST	15	22
SEPTEMBER	19	26
OCTOBER	17	24
NOVEMBER	21	28
DECEMBER	5 (Organizational meeting and board meeting)	12 (Optional)

12-7-04

SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Collegeville, PA 19426

BOARD MEETING – DECEMBER 6, 2004
Cafeteria of the Senior High School

MISSION STATEMENT

In cooperation with home and community, the Spring-Ford Area School District is committed to promoting academic excellence in a safe learning environment, recognizing the diverse needs of all students and empowering them to become lifelong learners and contributing citizens.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

III. PRESENTATION

- A. Dr. Coale recognized Louise Plush for becoming a Nationally Certified Teacher. This award required study and committee review. Mrs. Plush is the first teacher in Spring-Ford to achieve this honor. Mrs. Plush said the process was extensive and involved a portfolio submission, analysis of her teaching, two videotapes of her teaching, a written commentary, and six 30-minute online tests. She credited her husband and family for their support. She said she learned a lot about herself and was proud. Dr. Coale said the district is proud. National Board Certification is a credential attesting that a teacher has been judged by peers as one who is accomplished, makes sound professional judgments about student learning, and acts effectively on those judgments. It is awarded by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), an independent, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization governed by a board of directors, the majority of whom are classroom teachers. Other members include school administrators, school board leaders, governors and state legislators, higher education officials, teacher union leaders and business and community leaders.

DR. COALE ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

Dr. Coale announced her intention to retire on June 30, 2005 and read her letter (attachment). Mr. Masciandaro thanked her for her service and expressed appreciation for her tireless work ethic and her many areas of expertise. Mr. Pettit stated his pleasure in working with Dr. Coale and praised her as one of the premier superintendents in the entire state. He said that it was a pleasure working with her and that he was sorry that it was not continuing. Mr. Schroeder thanked Dr. Coale for allowing him to be part of the vision of Spring-Ford. He said the academic and physical growth of the district resulting from her oversight has been phenomenal. He added that he held Dr. Coale in high esteem. Mr. Schroeder thanked her and said the community and school would miss her. Mrs. Stokes said that she echoed these remarks and that Dr. Coale has brought the school district forward and she is very sorry to see Dr. Coale retire. Mr. Rocchio praised Dr. Coale's work ethic. Mr. Ciresi said it has been a pleasure working with Dr. Coale and that he had learned a lot about how the district runs and how committees work. He wished her the best of luck in retirement and thanked her for her effort.

Mr. Masciandaro said he had her letter and that he guessed it was his duty to formally accept it. Mr. Schroeder made a motion to begrudgingly to accept Dr. Coale's letter of resignation. Mr. Rocchio seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THIS ISSUE

Thea Block, Upper Providence Township said she was saddened to hear of Dr. Coale's announcement. Dr. Coale pushed hard for extending foreign language to the middle school and instituting a special program for students who are talented in math but who are not gifted. Mrs. Block praised Dr. Coale's support of curriculum, the music program, extracurricular activities and clubs, and implementation of the autistic support program that is recognized nationally. Mrs. Block praised Dr. Coale's use of standardized testing as a tool to evaluate students, classes, teachers, buildings, and principals rather than seeing tests as a hoop to jump through for No Child Left Behind. Mrs. Block praised Dr. Coale's initiatives in staff development and at the WCTS. She also cited the renovation or construction of buildings and the past ten years of labor peace, which she attributed to Dr. Coale's efforts. Mrs. Block commended Dr. Coale's efforts in building partnerships with business through the community relations committee and spearheading the Spring-Ford Education Foundation's scholarships. Mrs. Block said that she thought that Dr. Coale should be lauded for the great strides that the district has made. Mrs. Block said that she would be disappointed if the board voted to accept her resignation. She said that the board should do more to try to persuade her that she is not quite ready for retirement yet.

Tom Donofrio, Upper Providence, said he was shocked too and was attending the meeting to see the changing of the guard as the new officers are elected. He thanked Dr. Coale's for her service especially when she motivated him while he served on the board. He offered to help her with her garden (laughter).

The board voted 8-0 to accept Dr. Coale's resignation.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Coale announced that Spring-Ford Area School District requested from Pennsylvania Department of Education approval for realignment from a 9-12 high school to a 10-12 high school and approval of the 9th grade center. This is the third realignment she has requested, she added.

PERSONNEL

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

- A. The board approved of the following leaves of absence:
1. **Kelly Kurtas**, Kindergarten Teacher at Upper Providence Elementary School, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with the Professional Agreement, effective tentatively January 11, 2005.
 2. **Mary Ann Warburton**, Instructional Assistant at the High School, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective December 9, 2004.
 3. **Cheryl Williams**, Secretary at Royersford Elementary School, for a Leave of Absence in accordance with Board Policy, effective tentatively December 6, 2004.
- B. The board approved of **Edward R. Nugent**, Pottstown, PA, for the new Maintenance II position. Mr. Nugent is currently a Custodian in the District. Compensation will be set at \$18.63 an hour with benefits as per the Maintenance Plan, effective December 7, 2004.
- C. The board approved of the following **Extra-Curricular/Supplemental Contracts** at the **High School**:
1. **Kristi Schellinger**, Girls' Assistant Basketball Coach, Code D, \$3,814 (pending current clearances)
 2. **Abbey Smith**, Winter Track Club Advisor, Code J, \$1186 (Revision-incorrect dollar amount previous agenda)
- D. The board approved of the following **Extra-Curricular/Supplemental Contract** at the **Middle School**:
1. **Amy Grady**, 8/9th Grade Assistant Cheerleading Coach (Winter) Code I ½, \$754 (pending current clearances)
- E. The board approved of the following Extra-Curricular/Supplemental Contract at the Intermediate School:
1. **Karen Tagg**, Art Club Advisor, Code M, \$324
- F. The board approved of the following **Professional Substitutes**:

1. **Kristen Cuff**, Pottsville, PA, Elementary Education & Special Education, St. Joseph's University
2. **Erin Keohane**, Elementary Education & Special Education, Temple University
3. **Thaddeus Moyer**, Health & Physical Education, Marywood University

V. **FINANCE**

Mr. Cummins made a motion to approve Items A-I, excluding Item E1. Mr. Pettit seconded it. Mr. Schroeder asked what grade level Item A4 would be for and was told 7th grade. It was approved 8-0.

A. The board approved of the following **independent contracts**:

1. **Donna S. Ireland**, 320 Old Lincoln Highway, Malvern, PA 19355 to provide 4.5 hours per week of in-home ABA therapy for a District Student as per the IEP.
 - a. To provide progress reports to parents and district quarterly.
 - b. To consult with student's teacher via phone calls, email or written communications.
 - c. To attend Evaluation Report Meetings and IEP meeting as requested by the District. Program not to exceed Three Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Four and 50 cents. (\$3,874.50) \$21.00 per hour for 4.5 hours per week up to 184.5 hours. Effective 9/23/04 to 6/30/05. Funding Source: Professional Services Account Number: 11-1241-330-999-000-00-19-10.
2. **Perkiomen Valley Watershed**, One Skippack Pike, Schwenksville, PA 19473. This program is for two Winter Secrets Presentations for Kindergarten. Effective January 13, 2005 at 9:30 and 1:00 @\$75.00 each. Program not to exceed One Hundred Fifty Dollars, (\$150.00) Funding is from the Spring City Home and School Association.
3. **Suburban Philadelphia Artist in Education Consortium**, 47 Church Road, Malvern, PA 19355. This program is sponsored by the Montgomery Co. Intermediate Unit. Effective 10/22/04 - Earl Lehman, visual artist does multi-disciplinary projects which incorporate visual arts into learning of many subjects including history, geography, sciences, math and language arts. His project will be a mural done by the Limerick students to hang in the Media Center Lobby. This project is not to exceed One thousand Five Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$1,520.00). Funding is from the Limerick Artist in Residence Budget, account no. 11-1100-329-000-000-00-19-07.

4. **Camfel Productions**, 15709 Arrow Highway, Suite 2, Irwindale, CA 91706-2092. This program is for (2) two assemblies January 21, 2005 – 40 minutes multimedia program entitled “It’s my Life” about decision making and accepting responsibility. Project not to exceed (\$655.00) Six Hundred Fifty Five Dollars. Effective. Nov. 1, 2004. Funding is from the Regular Instruction Account # 11-1100-329-000-000-00-29-26.
 5. **Baylin Artists Management Inc.**, 18 West State Street, Suite 203, Doylestown, PA 18901. This program entitled **Red Grammer**, is a critically acclaimed recording artist to present a treasure trove of music through a 45 minutes assembly program for grades K-4. During the program, Mr. Grammer will instill a sense of community, an appreciation for diversity, a sense of peace, and leave the audience singing. This program compliments our pro-social program. Funding Source is through Pro-Social Skills Funds, Account #11-2120-610-000-000-00-19.
 6. **William B. Bingham, Jr.**, Director of Educational Services, 5010 Ritter Road, Suite 119, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055, to train twenty-four (24) lead teachers in the use of Performance Tracker. Performance Tracker is a web-based application developed by alterNet Performance, LLC, to help districts develop a standards-based curriculum, track student performance, and respond to legislated requirements for student assessment reporting. Training is scheduled for January 13, 2005, with a bad-weather make-up date of January 25, 2005; and will consist of two (2) two-and-one-half (2 ½) hour sessions. These twenty-four (24) lead teachers will, in turn, train all appropriate K-12 teachers in using this system. Total cost of the training is not to exceed one thousand one hundred ninety-five dollars (\$1,195.00) and will be paid out of the 2004-2005 Title II Educational Technology budget.
- 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.
- C. The board approved of the BridgeTrak software suite from Kemma Software of Gibsonia, Pennsylvania at a cost of \$11,162 including the first year’s maintenance. Implementation of this software will permit both the Technology and Maintenance departments to independently institute computerized work order tracking. The system allows for multiple user work order entry and routes the work orders to appropriate individuals based on specified criteria. In addition to the work order system, the program will also audit district computers and provide a report to the Technology department showing installed software on each computer. An accurate software inventory is necessary to ensure compliance with the Copyright law. This purchase is in keeping with the following Technology Plan Goals: Administration and Management Goal 1 (Section 8, Page 3 of 12), Administration and Management Goal 3 (Section 8,

Page 5 of 12), Communication and Information Access Goal 3 (Section 8. Page 8 of 12). Funding will come from the Technology Fund.

- D. PLANCON Part K – Project Refinancing has been received from the Department of Education for the 10 million, G.O.B. Series of 2000 (Lease number 002690), as a temporary reimbursable percent of 29.75%. The funds finance a portion of the Upper Providence Elementary School and the Middle /Intermediate School. The state request the district enters the documents into the minutes of the board meeting.

Mr. Rocchio made a motion to approve Item E1. Mr. Cummins seconded it. It was approved 7-1 with Mr. Morgan voting no.

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

1. WINNIES PROJECT

Bursich Associates	Professional Services	\$ 2,562.22
Limerick Township	Professional Services	<u>\$ 218.35</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 2,780.57

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item E2, 3, and F-I. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

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

2. INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

Office Basics	Lectern	\$ 250.50
U. Providence Twp.	Professional Services	<u>\$ 757.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 1,007.50

3. MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

Crest Environmental	Professional Services	\$ 150.00
Perkins/T.P. Trailers	6 Storage Container/Rental	\$ 450.00
Spring-Ford Area SD	Reimburse General Fund	\$ 350.00
U.S. Engineering Lab	Construction/Material Testing & Inspection Services	<u>\$ 3,337.50</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 4,287.50

- F. The board approved of payment for the following invoices for the month of **DECEMBER**, in connection with the **CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT – Fund 22:**

Phase II – Design Athletic Fields

Montco Fence	Addition to Back-Stop	\$ 1,700.00
Cowan Associates	Professional Services	<u>\$ 7,404.64</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 9,104.64

- G. Checks:

- Weekly Checks prior to Work Session
Check No. 100911-101017 \$572,859.20
- Athletic Fund- November
Check No. 296628-296683 \$18,945.57

- H. The board approved of the following **additions/deletions** from the per capita tax for July 2004 – December 2004:

Spring City Borough Additions	No. 1-42
Spring City Borough Deletions	No. 1-153
Upper Providence Township Deletions	No. 1-436

- I. The board approved of the following **exoneration** from the per capita tax for 2004-2005:
Limerick Township No. 18

PROPERTY

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Pettit seconded it. Mr. Schroeder asked if there was a duplication of charges. Dr. Coale said that this item was sent to the solicitor for review. Mr. Cooper said it was competitively in line. It seems to entail more work and it is more expensive. Mr. Schroeder said single prime saves money. Mrs. Stokes explained to the public that the item involves a change in architect fees resulting from moving from a single prime contract to a multiple prime contract for Winnies. The additional costs amount to \$174,000, she said. Originally the district received a waiver from the state to use a single prime contractor to save money. There has been some legal questions about the waiver so the district was advised to go back to multiprime contracts, which involves having five contractors and incurring additional cost. She said that she hated to vote for it but she would to protect the district from legal ramifications. Mr. Pettit said that it is an unfortunate situation and that he favored single prime since one contractor is responsible and the cost differential is substantial. He said he would vote for it with reluctance. Mr. Ciresi asked if this was the bottom line charge and if there was room for negotiation. Dr. Coale said it was difficult. Mr. Schroeder asked to add a not-to-exceed figure. Dr. Coale said the solicitor is considering that. Mr. Cooper said the architect offers a flat fee and it's hard to get an architect to work at 5%. Mr. Masciandaro said that favoring this motion was to avoid a possible suit. He asked the solicitor who said that the real issue was to avoid a delay. Mr. Morgan said that he believed that the board voted

to move to multiple prime at the last meeting. Other board members expressed agreement and said the motion was the next step. It was approved 6-2 with Mr. Ciresi and Mr. Morgan voting against it.

- A. The board approved revision of the contract with the Spring-Ford Area School District and DLR Group for the change in the project delivery method from a single prime contract to multiple prime contracts (five). The additional cost to the contract is \$174,500, pending solicitor review.

VII. CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

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

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

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-I. Mr. Ciresi seconded it. Mr. Ciresi questioned whether a substitute was being brought in for a coach and said that he thought this issue was addressed last year. Mr. McDaniel said yes. Mrs. Stokes agreed and said that a teacher would be taken away from his teaching duties to go to a conference on coaching. She added that it set a precedent establishing athletics as being more important than academics. Dr. Hurda said that Mr. Brobst was willing to take a personal day to do this and that it would be the board's decision whether he should or not. Mr. Cummins said the seminar runs a week long and was valuable. Extracurricular programs are a part of education, he added. The board decided to discuss item E further and so Mr. Pettit withdrew his motion and Mr. Ciresi withdrew his second. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-I excluding E. Mr. Rocchio seconded. The board voted 8-0 to approve.

- A. **Dr. Genevieve D. Coale**, Superintendent of Schools to attend "*Using NCLB as a Governance Tool*" at the Sheraton Inn in Reading, PA on Thursday, January 6, 2005. The total cost of the conference is \$99.00 from the 580 account.
- B. **Dr. Genevieve D. Coale**, Superintendent of Schools to attend "*Suburban School Study Council Seminar*" in Key West, FL from Thursday, January 13, 2005 through Monday, January 17, 2005. The total cost of the seminar is \$326.00 from the 580 account.
- C. **Dr. Marsha R. Hurda**, Assistant Superintendent, to attend "*PA Association of School Personnel Administrators Workshop on Bridge Certificates*" at the Capital Intermediate Unit in Harrisburg on Friday, December 3, 2004. The total cost of the conference is \$88.00 from the 580 account.

HIGH SCHOOL

- D. **Kelly Meyer, Mary Palladino, and Doug Weidner**, Math Teachers, to attend *“College Board Professional Development Workshops – AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics and AP Calculus AB”* at the Renaissance Hotel in Philadelphia, PA on Friday, February 11 and Saturday, February 12, 2005. Each teacher will attend a different workshop depending on their specific area of instruction. The total cost of the workshop is \$1560.00 - \$1260.00 from the 580 account and \$300.00 from the substitute account.

MIDDLE SCHOOL 8TH GRADE CENTER

- F. **Jennifer Whytosek**, Learning Support Teacher, to attend *“Strengthening Your Students’ Writing Skills”* in Frazer, PA on Tuesday, January 25, 2005. This conference will help Jennifer learn new strategies for improving student writing skills and thereby prepare her students for the PSSA tests. The total cost of the conference is \$290.25 - \$190.25 from the Special Education Budget and \$100.00 from the substitute account.
- G. **Paul Karwoski and Michele Fonte**, Learning Support Teachers, to attend *“Progress Monitor Training”* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on Monday, January 24, Monday, February 7, and Wednesday, May 18, 2005. This mandated training will teach progress monitoring methodology in order to provide turn around training to special education staff in each teacher’s respective building. The total cost of the conference is \$725.88 - \$125.88 from the Special Education Budget and \$600.00 from the substitute account.
- H. **Dee McCarter and Kerry Mihalcik**, Guidance Counselor and Nurse, to attend *“Exploring Self-Mutilation Behavior in Youth”* in Atlantic City, NJ on Friday, January 14, 2005. This workshop is necessary due to the increasing number of students who are resorting to self – mutilation as a coping mechanism. The total cost of the workshop is \$804.00 – \$704.00 from the 580 account and \$100.00 from the substitute account.

UPPER PROVIDENCE

- I. **Reesa Wurtz**, Psychologist, to attend *“Autism Spectrum Disorders”* in Philadelphia, PA on Friday, December 10, 2004. This conference will help Reesa learn new skills for building social understanding and programming for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. The total cost of the conference is \$149.00 from the Psychologist’s Budget. No substitute is necessary.

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Item E. Mr. Cummins seconded it. The board voted 8-0 to approve it.

- E. **Bruce Brobst**, Baseball Coach, to attend "*Be the Best You are Baseball Clinic*" at the Hilton in Cherry Hill, NJ on Friday, January 21, 2005. This clinic will provide Bruce with new coaching methods and techniques. The total cost of the conference is \$276.00 - \$176.00 from the Athletic Budget and \$100.00 from the substitute account.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Stokes expressed concern about how this item got on the agenda and that it did not go through the usual committee process. Mr. Cummins the band was never under extracurricular originally and it was an oversight. He discussed this to make sure that this doesn't occur this way again. Mr. Schroeder said that he preferred that it went through committee but appreciated Mr. Eckstine appearing before the full board. He said he would support this item this year but it was not a guarantee for next year. Dr. Coale expressed support for this item and said that the budget cuts last year were tough but fair between music and athletics. Last year, it was brought up by two board members to add two positions for athletics and nothing was added for music. She expressed strong support for the music department and Mr. Eckstine's request. She agreed that it should have gone through the extracurricular committee and added that the meeting should not take place in the athletic director's office. Mr. Masciandaro asked for the costs for next year. That information was sent to the board, Dr. Coale said. The cost for next year is \$12,844. The board voted 6-2 with Mr. Rocchio and Mr. Morgan voting no.

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

Although John Eckstine is submitting this as a full request for the 2005-06 school year, he asked for special consideration for this year because bands in competition are visually driven and after two years of the establishment of a color guard, the district is still lagging behind. This would give the district an opportunity for further training of the students and to allow the district band to be more competitive.

ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item J. Mr. Schroeder seconded it.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM

George Growcott, Limerick, said he was a volunteer and worked in the marching band program. The program offers students a chance to grow and he thanked the board. He said the district would appreciate it. He said that he had been with the Tournament of Bands Association for 20 years. They did not push the program with student since it had not yet been approved. However, 15 to 20 students are expected to be interested. This program helps students become more comfortable when they reach the high school environment by removing the fear of performing before a crowd.

Allan Dovberg, Limerick, asked if additional benefits are accrued to these adults other than \$1. Dr. Coale said \$1 only. In terms of insurance, they are covered like any other person in those positions. Mrs. Stokes asked about mileage and was told no.

The board voted 7-1 to approve Item J with Mr. Morgan voting no.

FINANCE

- J. The board approved of the **Supplemental - Extra Curricular Contracts at the High School:**
4. **Michelle Albright**, Indoor Guard Volunteer, Code 1, \$1
 5. **Amber Rose**, Indoor Guard Volunteer, Code 1, \$1
 6. **Glen Rhine**, Indoor Guard Volunteer, Code 1, \$1
 7. **George Growcott**, Indoor Guard Volunteer, Code 1, \$1

IX. INFORMATION ITEMS

X. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was none.

Mr. Rocchio asked parents, teachers, and staff to complete surveys about the guidance department. The survey form was brought home by students and is on the district's website.

Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Anspach to make a simplified presentation to the public and board on Act 72. He asked for two or three open forum meetings so questions could be asked of Mr. Anspach. Mr. Cummins said the IU offered help. The presentation would be on the committee level, Mr. Ciresi said since the public had questions about Act 72. Mr. Anspach said the finance committee would look at it and Ed Murray would be at the January committee meeting. Mr. Anspach said that residents are advised to fill out the Act 72 application that the state mailed to their homes. Mr. Masciandaro said the first "chunk" would cover discussion and ramifications at a work session.

XI. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Thea Block, Upper Providence, thanked the board members for their service and wished them luck in the coming year.

Mr. Masciandaro thanked board members for expressing their support of him. He said the board could act best by acting together. He asked the board to think about one great thing that they wished the board could do faster and to let him know. If there is one thing they don't like, he requested to hear about that as well. He also asked for input on the committee assignments and which ones they want to serve on.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Pettit seconded it. The board adjourned at 8:53 pm

Spring-Ford Goals May 14, 2004

Actions from last meeting:

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

Process for working goals:

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

Goal Action Proposals:

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

Assignment - Extra Curricular Committee

4. Improve public perceptions of the district, Local industry as a district partner and alternative funding. Non-Monetary Employee Incentive: (Original Goals #4, 5, 16)

Assignment: Community Relations Committee

5. Key Measures: (Original Goals #6, 7, 8, 9,12)

Graduation rate increase, Increase percent of graduates going to post secondary school, Establish a listing of our graduates continuing education school placement, Increase scholarships achieved by our students. Graduate acceptance at top universities and colleges

Assignment: Full Board.

Tracking graduates to see how we are doing.

Assignment: Community Relations

6. School Media centers / libraries open weekends, evenings and summer. Create continuing education programs. (Original Goals #10, 11)

Assignment: Curriculum Committee

7. Reduce Childhood obesity:(Original Goal #13)

Assignment: Healthy Choices Committee

8. Increase PSSA and Terra Nova Test Scores: (Original Goal #14)

Assignment: Full Board

9. Plan for District wide Construction needs: (Original Goal #15)

Assignment: Facilities Committee

10. Establish a Blue Ribbon School (Original Goal #17)

Assignment: Curriculum Committee

11. Develop and implement a Five Year Financial Plan (Original Goal #18)

Assignment: Finance Committee

12. District Office replacement (Original Goal #19)

Assignment: Full Board

Referenced below are the original goals:

Spring-ford goals Feb 24, 2004 Version 2

Proposals:

1. Reduce class sizes

- Establish and maintain smaller class sizes K - 6 to lower levels than present that would be in keeping with the desires of the community as established as a goal, of the Districts' Strategic Plan.

- Class Size: establish a standard of smaller class size through out the district. Begin with K-6 and move into the middle and high school.

2. Reduce drug usage

Formally Establish a beefed up Drug prevention program that will both quantify and qualify the types of drugs that are prevalent in the SF School district. Include

alcohol, inhalants, and over the counter drugs along with all illicit drugs. Formulate a plan that will address these findings, thru awareness programs, counseling programs, possibly integrated with community based programs. Also provide strong prevention and intervention measures. All results to be reported publicly to the Board twice a year.

3. Reduce costs and provide more services for alternative education.

- Establish a program for alternative Education within the district. Feature career based programs. programs should be of high quality with approved articulation agreements with Technical institutes and various colleges. DO NOT OVERLAP Programs that are available at WCTS. It is important to keep 'OUR STUDENTS' interested in their future. Any program must be flexible, It should offer Flex hours, day care, internships, intense counseling, and ultimately job placement components. We should stop sending our difficult students out of the district, and along with them hundreds of thousands of our communities tax dollars with them. It is time to treat this issue with respect and dignity and be accountable for all of our students.

- Determine the feasibility of operating our own alternative school.

- Special needs Children: Would like to see a study on what the district spends on these children and if possible for the district to bring these children back into the district and instruct them in a district building. With the state cutting its share of funding every year, and tuition going up we need to look at this matter and maybe set up a five-year goal

4. Improve public perceptions of the district

- Drastically Improve public relations getting positive as well as (possible negative) information to the immediate community expeditiously.

5. Local industry as a district partner

- Establish a program that beseeches large local industry to be part of District initiatives. This will create an environment that brings fresh ideas (from industry leaders) as well as possible project funding (such as help with technical initiatives, adult evening courses, co-ops etc.

- Alternative Funding: Interview companies that deals exclusively in marketing and sponsorship/grants to help the district target possible sources of revenue i.e. Merck, Peco, GM , etc., to help advance programming opportunities in the district.

6. Graduation rate increase

7. Increase percent of graduates going to post secondary school

- Establish a listing of our graduates continuing education school placement.

Create diversity guidelines.

8. Increase scholarships achieved by our students

9. Tracking graduates to see how we are doing:

- Create a graduate report, where are they 10, 20 and 30 years later
- Track graduates to see where and what careers they pursue.

10. School Media centers / libraries open weekends, evenings and summer

11. Create continuing education programs

- Renew Spring-Ford's commitment to Life-Long Learning by commissioning an Adult Ed Board responsible for oversight and operation of said adult education separate

from the operations and involvement of the SFASD Board and Administration, similar to the model currently in use for many successful years in Owen J. Roberts SD.

12. Graduate acceptance at top universities and colleges:

- Improve the prospects for Spring-Ford students being accepted at top universities and colleges.

13. Reduce Childhood obesity:

- Promote healthy lifestyles to combat the growing epidemic of childhood obesity.

14. Increase PSSA and Terra Nova Test Scores:

- Alarming number of test scores in the below average category in the 9th grade of the terra nova test scores in reading and mathematics. I would like to see these numbers brought into the single digits. The same holds true for the 11th grade PSSA test in mathematics. These numbers also need to be brought up into the single percentages also

15. Plan for District wide Construction needs:

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

16. Non-Monetary Employee Incentive:

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

17. Establish a Blue Ribbon School

18. Financial Plan:

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

19. District Office:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Dillon
Board Secretary

213 Nottingham Drive
Spring City, PA 19475
November 1, 2004

Bernard F. Pettit, President
Spring-Ford Area School District Board
157 Pesimmon Drive
Collegeville, PA 19426

Dear Mr. Pettit:

This letter is notification of my intent to retire from the Spring-Ford Area School District effective the end of the 2004-05 school year. I have been pleased to serve the community of Spring-Ford for over twenty-five years in five different capacities.

It has been truly exciting establishing with the community the vision and goals of the district, many of which have been achieved to have Spring-Ford become one of the premier districts in the nation and the fifth largest in Montgomery county. It has also been rewarding to make meaningful and sustained changes in the areas of academic achievement, curriculum and instruction, staff development, technology, vocational education, special education and instructional leadership.

During that period of time the face of Spring-Ford has changed. During my superintendency eight construction, renovation and addition school projects have been completed in a timely manner. Teachers and students have benefited from buildings designed to maximize student learning. Structures have been created to meet the needs of all students.

It is my hope that the district will continue to support the strategic and technology plans. The district has addressed many challenges throughout during the last ten years of my career here and is positioned well to meet the challenges of the future.

Sincerely,
Genevieve D. Coale