

On January 23, 2017 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:	Dr. Edward T. Dressler, Bernard F. Pettit and Kelly J. Spletzer
Region II:	Dawn R. Heine and Colleen Zasowski
Region III:	Mark P. Dehnert
Presiding Officer:	Thomas J. DiBello
Superintendent:	Dr. David R. Goodin
Chief Financial Officer:	James D. Fink
Solicitor:	Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.
Student Reps.:	Daniel J. Ciresi and Taylor Stevens

The following Board Members were absent: **Joseph P. Ciresi** and **Todd R. Wolf**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Taylor announced that January is School Director Recognition Month. She reported that 4,500 board of school directors serve Pennsylvania's 500 public school districts as volunteers without pay and continue to keep adequate school funding at the top of the list of the most important educational concerns facing public schools. Taylor, on behalf of the Spring-Ford Area High School student body, thanked the nine school directors for their continued service to the students, families and community members of the Spring-Ford Area School District.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

II. PRESENTATION

Erin Cohen, 2017 President of the Spring-Ford Chamber of Commerce, stated that to celebrate their 25th anniversary this year they had many different nominees and one of those was for the 2017 Community Impact. Ms. Cohen commented that when it comes to community impact the award this year went to the Spring-Ford Area School District an organization that demonstrates volunteerism, community involvement, and a positive impact on our community on a daily basis and in many different forms. Ms. Cohen stated that Spring-Ford encourages their students to seek their passion and help their community to be a better place to live in. Spring-Ford raises funds and takes collections to help students in need with programs such as Operation Backpack. The district encourages participation in programs such as Project Lead the Way and the Spring-Ford Project Outreach. Ms. Cohen added that the district supports physical and mental health in their students, their families and the communities they live in every single day. Ms. Cohen presented the 2017 Community Impact Award to Dr. Goodin and Mr. DiBello on behalf of the school district.

Mr. DiBello stated that it is always great to be recognized in the community and as a Board they are excited for the successes they have seen over the past couple of years.

A. Presentation by the **Spring-Ford Chamber of Commerce** to the Spring-Ford Area School District.

Dr. Nugent stated that this evening they wanted to take a moment to update the community and the Board on some updates that have been taking place in the High School Media Center. He commented that the library environment from past years has changed significantly as some books have been replaced with ebooks, research is done via the internet and some of the data bases provided to students. Dr. Nugent reported that throughout the country a movement called Makerspace has been taking place in libraries and media centers. Dr. Nugent introduced a video on Makerspaces that provided an explanation on what a Makerspace is, showed a Makerspace in operation and also provided an overview of the construction project and the future plans for the Makerspace in the Spring-Ford Area High School. Dr. Nugent reported that they did present this idea to the Curriculum and Instruction Committee several months ago, a motion was placed on the board agenda and approval was given to move forward with this project. Dr. Nugent advised that they did find funding from outside sources and he has continued to find outside funding so thus far this project has been accomplished without taxpayer money. He added that the Education Foundation provided a 3D printer for this new space. Dr. Nugent stated that they are very excited for what lies ahead and added that this initiative mirrors the STEM Program. Dr. Nugent reported that currently the anticipated grand opening will take place in September.

Mrs. Spletzer asked how this new initiative is being communicated to the student population so they will know when it is ready for them to come down and check it out and Mr. Brubaker replied that currently it is on a curiosity level as students know there is construction going on but there are also signs in the hallway announcing where the media center is headed. Mrs. Spletzer asked if the Makerspace would be open to all and Mr. Brubaker responded absolutely that everything in the media center is open to everybody.

Mr. DiBello asked about the oversight of the students and whether it would be the media center staff and Mrs. O'Brien stated that they will be overseeing students while in all of the areas of the media center. She added that they will definitely know what is going on but they will have to set up a process and a set of procedures for students in order to make sure that they know how to use the equipment, are responsible while using the equipment and that staff know what they are creating. Mr. DiBello stated that this is a long transition away from the libraries as we know them but students will still have access to online materials, periodicals and books but so much of the material now is online. Mr. Brubaker advised that they have been doing research for quite a while in terms of professional literature and they have visited other libraries. He added that Penn State's library is turning into a very similar model. Mr. Brubaker stated that they have researched to make sure that everyone who may use the space has been accounted for in the process. Mr. Brubaker reference the monitoring of the students and said they are also looking into possibly setting up some type of a video system to help with this. Mr. DiBello expressed that this is an exciting thing and is a great transitional step for our students going onto college or a trade school.

Dr. Dressler asked about the outside funding source and who they may be so that they could be given proper recognition. Dr. Nugent replied that Jersey Mike's did a fundraiser for the High School so money from that was earmarked for this project, Lifetouch Photograph has been supportive, Jostens offers educational grants and Mr. Nugent indicated that he has

been knocking on all their doors and asking for whatever he can get. Dr. Nugent added that they are very fortunate to be where they are and feel they are in very good shape but it may be a process to get to the end line. He stated that everyone is very anxious to get to the September opening. Dr. Dressler asked if there was any thoughts to moving this concept into other buildings and Dr. Nugent replied not yet as they are just trying to get this one open first.

Dr. Goodin commented that with regards to Dr. Dressler's question about extending this program to other schools he wanted to note that we have put a RamQUEST Program in place in the elementary schools and at the middle level we have STEM classes.

Mr. DiBello reiterated that the Spring-Ford Educational Foundation donated the 3D printer and stated that there is definitely an interest by them in contributing to other projects as well.

Dr. Nugent commented that this concept is supported by industry in the business world and it does piggyback off of the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) courses and hopefully it will create an interest for other students who will then sign up for the PLTW courses.

Dr. Dressler thanked Dr. Nugent for all of the hard work on these initiatives. Dr. Nugent stated that he wanted to thank Mrs. O'Brien and Mr. Brubaker as they have been the driving force behind this. Dr. Nugent stated that he has been supportive of their efforts as they had looked at the media center which really had no one in it and was a dying space but over the last three years they have revived it and they hope that the students have seen this as well. Dr. Nugent added that when this project is up and running it will not be like the library of old where students were shushed but a more active space

Mrs. Zasowski commented that this project sounds like it will have a buzz feed all of its own. She stated that she believed that when they hold their grand opening then it will really click for the rest of the students that maybe are not hands on right now but hopefully will be once they see all that is available to them.

Mrs. Heine stated that she loves the fact that Dr. Nugent and the library staff are forward thinking about this and what will be next. She added that she likes that we are not settling and becoming complacent with the space and this will only add value to every thing we do here. She thanked them for continuing to see this forward.

B. Presentation on Upgrades to the High School Media Center.

Dr. Goodin stated that tonight we are here to thank the volunteers that give their time and energy to serve on our School Board. He thanked the Board Members for all they do and contribute towards the furtherment of the school district. Dr. Goodin stated that their efforts continue to guide and support faculty and administration helping them to help the students. Dr. Goodin said the 9 Board Member are all givers. He thanked all of the Board for giving their time, energy, expertise and resources to the furtherment of the school district. Dr. Goodin stated that each of them are an embodiment of volunteerism. Dr. Goodin introduced a video that expressed appreciation to the School Board Members for all that they do. Dr. Goodin presented each Board Member with a token of appreciation.

Mr. DiBello thanked Dr. Goodin for recognizing the Board.

C. Presentation honoring the Spring-Ford Area School District Board of Directors who volunteer their time for the betterment of public education in our community.

III. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Rep. Report Daniel Ciresi/Taylor Stevens

Danny reported that tomorrow marks the end for all mid-terms for high school students. He announced that if there are any junior or senior male students interested in participating in Mr. Spring-Ford this year they will need to sign up. Danny stated that this event is always a fun, comical night and he would encourage students to sign up. Danny reminded freshman and sophomore students that they can buy their Winter Ball tickets at lunch up until February 2nd at a cost of \$20 per ticket. Danny reported that the AP Test registration deadline ends on January 31st. Students can register through the AP website which can be found through the High School homepage. The student council is holding a book drive until January 31st to benefit CHOP. Danny announced that any student wishing to order a yearbook must do so by the deadline of March 13th. Danny advised that all underclassmen will begin to pick their classes for next year which is a very important process. He added that anyone with questions regarding this should contact their house guidance counselors or the counselors in the Future Planning Center. Danny provided information on the athletic events coming up and encouraged students to come out and support the home team. Danny commented that as seniors they are officially done half of their final high school year and the remaining months will go by very quickly. He encouraged all seniors to try and enjoy the remaining time as it will soon be time to graduate.

WMCTC Ciresi, Dressler, Heine 1st Mon. 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Dressler reported that the Joint Operating Committee held their first meeting of the year on January 9th. The JOC first met for an executive session to discuss personnel issues followed by the reorganization meeting. Dr. Dressler reported that at the reorganization meeting the JOC chose Patricia Grimm as the new chairperson and Dawn Heine as the Vice Chairperson. Dr. Dressler stated that that regular meeting then began with the executive director's report. Mr. Moritzen advised that there were 21 students are presently working in the Co-op Program, 148 applicants have applied online for the Western Center Programs and 26 of those applicants were for the new Sports Medicine Program. Dr. Dressler thanked Mr. Bonetz and his crew for preparing the video on the new Sports Medicine promotional video. Dr. Dressler reported that there were 27 participants for the Girls' Night Out and hopefully these numbers will grow in the future. Dr. Dressler added that the open house had a very large turnout and there seems to be a lot of interest in the programs out there. The viability of the Environmental Design Program is being studied as the enrollment figures have been consistently low. He added that the low enrollment was not a result of the instruction quality but more a question of the interest by students. Dr. Dressler reported that Mr. Weneck reported that the Culinary Arts Program Community Dinner that took place the same night as the meeting had a sellout of 175 people with this being the 7th straight sellout. Dr. Dressler advised that the next dinner taking place next month will have a Cajun Dinner theme and there are already 50 people in the community signed up to attend. Dr. Dressler advised anyone interested to get their reservation in fast. The Western Center Culinary Art Chef is proposing that they look into holding an English High Tea event in the near future possibly on Thursday and Fridays in the early afternoon. Dr. Dressler reported that over the holiday break there was an Iron Chef Competition where members of the three sending school district's school boards judged the preparations from the various Culinary Arts groups. Dr. Dressler stated that the meeting ended with a discussion led by Chairperson Grimm that there was a heroin task force being looked at to help deal with the heroin crisis in all school districts in our communities.

Community Relations

Colleen Zasowski

3rd Mon. 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Zasowski reported that the Community Relations Committee met last week and talked about domestic violence information that will be presented to Dr. Siggins and Mrs. Nuneviller. They are waiting for information to come from the Women's Center of Montgomery County on this. The information from the Women's Center targets students in 7-12 grades and included informational assemblies as well as a play entitled "Mirror Mirror". More information on this will follow and be disseminated accordingly. Mrs. Zasowski stated that they also discussed the new website and all indications are that it is on target to be rolled out for the start of the next school year. Mrs. Zasowski advised that there was a parent presentation on opioid crisis in November and that Upper Perkiomen School District had formed a task force which is what Dr. Dressler referred to in his report. Mrs. Zasowski reported that Family-Tech night took place on January 9th and was successful as there were 60+ who were in attendance at this event. Mrs. Zasowski spoke about the email rollout that is taking place and Mr. Bonetz will be putting together a how-to video regarding this. She next reported on upcoming events such as a Parent Camp on January 28th, a Vex Robotics Challenge on February 18th, and Mindfulness with Brian Aikens taking place in the spring. Mrs. Zasowski added that a new comprehensive course book format for grades 9-12 was released. She reported that in addition to all of this taking place they also discussed community outreach and stated that Spring-Ford is reaching out to the community via social media through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Vimeos and Ram Review. Other suggestions on alternative avenues to reach those community members who may not have children in the district but would like to have information shared with them. The final topic discussed was in regards to SNAP and an open house was held where two new chair people for next year were on hand. Mrs. Zasowski reported that it was evident to see the new roots taking place for recruiting volunteers as several new volunteers were present at the open house. Mrs. Zasowski encouraged students to attend the meetings and the event itself as well as parents and community members to help support the event. Mrs. Zasowski reported that they are still in need of many volunteers and prizes. The thoughts are that they will be able to pull off the event this year but they are short on prizes. Mrs. Zasowski stated that this is her second request to the Board to show their support by donating a prize to be won by a student in attendance at the SNAP event. Mrs. Zasowski commented that she was not asking for a monetary donation but she is asking for them to consider donating a prize.

Legislative Committee

Joseph Ciresi

3rd Weds. 7:30 p.m.

There was no report

MCIU

Tom DiBello

4th Weds. 7:00 p.m.

Mr. DiBello reported that they have their first meeting of the year coming up this Wednesday night.

Personnel

Bernard Pettit

(As Needed)

Mr. Pettit reported that the Personnel Committee met with representatives from the teacher's union and there is a follow up meeting to further discuss the teacher's contract on Thursday the 26th.

PSBA Liaison

Dr. Edward Dressler

Dr. Dressler reported that the issue of doing away with Property Tax has arisen again. Previously it had been defeated by one vote prior to the November election. Dr. Dressler stated that since the election two people have been voted onto the State Senate who are in favor of the initiative that was presented back then so the bill is now being resurrected as it seems he may have enough support to get this to pass. Dr. Dressler provided a brief

review of the legislation saying it would increase the state's income tax rate to 4.95% from 3.7% and this would provide an estimated \$5 billion. The remainder needed to make up the difference in what would be lost doing away with property tax would come from increasing the state sales tax to 7% and eliminating exemptions from many transactions including groceries, clothing, shoes, legal accounting and financial services, dry cleaning, funeral services, lawn services, basic television services, trash pickup, liquor, beer, non-prescription drugs, and tickets to sporting events and concerts. Dr. Dressler reported that this bill is not supported by the Pennsylvania School Board Association because they believe that this type of income is so different and comes with a great degree of fluctuation depending on the economy. He added that when you are dealing with money from income tax and sales tax it can fluctuate considerably and PSBA predicts shortfalls in the funding so they are not in favor of this. Dr. Dressler cautioned that he believes that there is a good chance that it could pass and there is talk that it could be implemented in June of this year. Dr. Dressler reported that in addition to this PSBA is raising a red flag that there seems to be a projected shortage of teachers as since 2010 Pennsylvania has seen a 58% deduction in the number of teaching certificates.

Mr. DiBello spoke about property tax reform saying that on paper it seems like a good idea for legislators to do away with property tax but with wonderful ideas there are always issues. One issue right now is that the state budget for 2017-2018 is looking at about a \$2 billion deficit and they are also looking at how they are going to make up the \$1.4 billion deficit from this year's budget. In addition they are also trying to figure out is in moving forward they still do not know how they are going to be able to sustain the property tax increases across the state. Mr. DiBello advised that he is all for property tax reduction but unfortunately right now the state cannot afford to take on what they are going to pass as it seems that it is pretty sure the Senate will pass it but it is unclear if the House will pass it or the Governor will sign it. Mr. DiBello added that there are two aspects of the bill and one is those districts with a debt will continue to have a property tax. He stated that from Spring-Ford's perspective our annual debt service is about \$15 million so our direct pass back to the community is not going to be as high as some other districts that have a much higher debt than what we have. Mr. DiBello stated that he was not sure what this would translate to with regards to millage but it would probably be somewhere around 20%-30% of what we currently have in place. Mrs. Spletzer said this was only for debt that was on the books for 2013. Mr. DiBello continued that there were many holes in the bill and one is that they don't know if they are going to be able to make up the \$14 billion that is planned and also they have not figured out how they are going to sustain it. Mr. DiBello added that with a district like Spring-Ford that gets roughly 82% of their taxes from the local tax base no one has come forward and actually said how the state was going to make up in property tax reform the roughly \$100 million that we currently get from the taxes. Mr. DiBello stated that he does not want to give the impression that he is against property tax reform as he pays the taxes like anyone else but on the flip side what they are talking about putting in place will not work. Mr. DiBello said he felt they had a pretty aggressive schedule to have this in place in June as he felt they had several areas that they still needed to figure out. Mr. DiBello added that it is believed that districts would only get a 1% - 1.5% increase per year and Mrs. Spletzer stated that it is tied to the consumer price index. Mr. DiBello commented that they have been warned that if you increase sales tax and you take away all of the exceptions, most likely that is going to translate to less purchases, personal income tax will go up which will create less spendable income. Mr. DiBello stated that he is optimistic that something good is going to come out of this but he is also scared as a board member because Spring-Ford has come so far in the last several years and has become one of the top

districts in the state and even in the country and he fears that without the funding that programs will be cut and class sizes will increase.

Dr. Dressler added that this reform takes away a lot of control from the local government and shifts it to the state government.

Mrs. Spletzer commented that in her opinion this would be the worst thing that could happen for the Spring-Ford School District. She stated that it is said that the state says that all of the money will go into special bucket for right now but we know that down the road when they need to tap into that then who will have control over stopping them.

Mr. DiBello reported that New Jersey tried to go down that road and what ended up happening was that their property taxes actually got higher and their education systems started fail. Mr. DiBello reiterated that he is not against property tax reform but what he supports is smart property tax reform and we have not seen that yet.

Dr. Dressler stated that one important component to this is that if the school district is going to try and spend more than the allotment that is deemed appropriate for them they need to seek a voter referendum to increase that allotment.

Superintendent Report Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin stated that on tonight's agenda you will find some retirements and he wanted to acknowledge those retirements tonight. He read off the list of retirees that appeared on the agenda and spoke about their length of service to the district. Dr. Goodin thanked all of them for their years of service to the district and for their dedication to the students of the district. He wished them much happiness in their retirement. Dr. Goodin recognized Mrs. Leiss who year after year heads up the United Way Fund Drive for the district. Dr. Goodin stated that United Way gives to many local charities in the community and we appreciate their work. Dr. Goodin said he wanted to acknowledge Mrs. Leiss and her office for overseeing this project every year. Dr. Goodin reported that the College Board each year recognizes AP District Honor Rolls and out of the last 7 years since it has been in existence Spring-Ford has been recognized 5 times. Dr. Goodin advised that the annual AP Honor Roll recognizes districts for increasing access to advanced placement course work while maintaining or increasing the percentage of students earning scores of 3 or higher on AP Exams. Dr. Goodin added that honor roll districts defy the expectation that expanding access automatically results in the decline in the percentage of exams earning scores of 3 or better. Dr. Goodin stated that reaching these goals indicates that our district has successfully identified and motivated academically prepared students who are likely to benefit from rigorous AP course work. Dr. Goodin congratulated the faculty and the administration at the high school as well as the Board for their continued support of the AP Program in the district. Dr. Goodin announced that the district is currently offering 24 AP courses at the high school level.

Solicitor's Report Mark Fitzgerald

Mr. Fitzgerald spoke about Letter C under Other Business with regards to the MOU between the school district and the Chester and Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth saying he would like to add a sentence at the end of the current paragraph stating that "The final version this MOU is subject to final review of the solicitor's office". Mr. Fitzgerald stated that this needed to be added because they received an updated draft from Montgomery County on Friday that is currently being reviewed and he wants to make sure that it is consistent with our intent as well.

IV. MINUTES

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

- A. The Board approved the November 21, 2016 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A1)**
- B. The Board approved the November 28, 2016 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A2)**
- C. The Board approved the December 5, 2016 Board Reorganization Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A3)**
- D. The Board approved the December 5, 2016 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A4)**

V. PERSONNEL

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

A. Resignations

- 1. **Joanne M. Drewicz**; Elementary Teacher, Royersford Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 15, 2017.
- 2. **Dorothea A. Gallagher**; Secretary, Senior High School. Effective: January 6, 2017.
- 3. **Susan M. Mercer**; Elementary Teacher, Evans Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 15, 2017.
- 4. **Miranda J. Paradise**; Elementary Teacher, Oaks Elementary School. Effective: January 24, 2017.
- 5. **Linda Rossi**; Instructional Assistant, 5/6th Grade Center. Effective: January 13, 2017.
- 6. **Sarah K. Sacks**; Information Systems Analyst, District Office, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: February 3, 2017.
- 7. **Carolyn M. Salerno**; Special Education Teacher, Senior High School – 9th Grade, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 15, 2017.
- 8. **Donna L. Viscuso**; Instructional Assistant, Senior High School, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: January 3, 2017.
- 9. **Justin C. Webb**; Director of Technology, District Office. Effective: January 20, 2017.

New Resignations

- 10. **Joni Lynn Conlin**; Family and Consumer Science Teacher, Senior High School-9th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 15, 2017.
- 11. **Jonathan B. Landis**; Field Technician-10 month, Senior High School-9th Grade Center. Effective: February 3, 2017.

B. Temporary Professional Employees

1. **Brian M. Kraeer**; Elementary Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center, replacing Barbara C. Good who retired. Compensation has been set at BS, Step 2, \$45,900.00, prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: January 30, 2017.
2. **Ryan M. Robison**; Social Studies Teacher, 8th Grade Center, replacing David M. Frankel who retired. Compensation has been set at BS, Step 1, \$44,700.00, prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: January 25, 2017.

C. Support Staff Employees

1. **Cheryl Nave**; Part-time Food Service (3 hours/day), 5/6th Grade Center, replacing Kristi DePetrillo who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$12.91/hour per the Food Service Plan. Effective: December 5, 2016.
2. **David G. Kinch**; Instructional Assistant, 8th Grade Center, replacing Sarah Fulton who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: December 19, 2016.
3. **Ashley M. Miller**; Instructional Assistant, 5/6th Grade Center, replacing Gina Davila who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: January 3, 2017.

New Support Staff Employee

4. **Amanda C. Hegedus**; Instructional Assistant, Limerick Elementary School. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: January 30, 2017

D. Change of Status

1. **Joan E. Bickley**; Clerical Assistant, Senior High School, to Secretary, Senior High School, replacing Dorothea A. Gallagher who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$15.94/hour with benefits per the Secretarial Plan. Effective: January 17, 2017.

E. Personnel Information Item

The individual listed below has completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as a temporary professional employee and was approved for tenure status:

1. **Kelly A. Grant** 8th Grade Center

- F. The Board approved the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2016-2017 school year. **(Attachment A5)**

New Personnel Motion

G. Leave of Absence

1. **Pamela Dalbey**; Spanish Teacher, Senior High School-9th Grade Center, for an unpaid leave of absence per Board Policy. Effective: February 1, 2017 for up to 6-8 weeks.

VI. FINANCE

Mr. Dehnert asked that Item I be separated. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-H and Mrs. Spletzer seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

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

Mr. Dehnert stated that he wanted to make an alternative motion for Letter I with the plan that he sent to the Board Members today. Mr. Dehnert advised that his recommendation changes the resolution to state that the tax collectors would be paid \$2.00 for the first 2,000 tax bills, \$1.25 for all of the tax bills above 2,000 bills, a base rate of \$4,680, \$1.00 for interim bills, and \$1.00 for the installments for the second and third. Mr. Dehnert said he is suggesting this because he feels that the way the resolution is constructed underpays Spring City and Royersford tax collectors and if we want to keep good people in those jobs that serve the taxpayers, and Royersford and Spring City deserve to have good people, then we should compensate them fairly. There was no second for Mr. Dehnert's motion. The motion did not pass.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Item I as originally proposed and Mrs. Heine seconded it.

Mr. DiBello stated that he would like to recommend a slight change to the resolution. He suggested that instead of paying the \$2,000 on a weekly or bi-weekly basis that it be paid out on a quarterly basis as this would be cleaner and easier financially. Mr. DiBello made a motion to make this slight change and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Fitzgerald suggested that the amendment be approved to add a quarterly payout subject to the final revision by the administration and then they can vote on the underlying motion which is essentially the resolution.

The amendment to the resolution motion passed 5-2 with Mr. Dehnert and Mrs. Spletzer voting no.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the amended resolution and Dr. Dressler seconded it.

Mrs. Spletzer commented that she was not here last week and listened to the discussions that took place and also spent extensive time looking at the information that Mr. Dehnert provided today as well as going back and forth with Mr. Fink today. Mrs. Spletzer stated that she understands that there were some issues about the disparity that appears the different jurisdictions are going to receive but after understanding that in doing away with the per capita tax where those first \$5,000 of the tax collector income was for the first 5,000 per capita tax bills sent out. Mrs. Spletzer stated that since we have done away with the per capita tax then that is about \$5,000 per jurisdiction that we are not incurring

that expense any longer then it make sense to make the pay cut that way as opposed to taking the pay cut from some jurisdictions just because they have less taxpayers and allocating that to the other jurisdictions.

Mr. Dehnert commented that the current resolution does not take into account that there is a fixed amount of work that is involved and is not dependent on the number of tax bills. Mr. Dehnert stated that they will be discouraging any person of quality from being a tax collector in those two jurisdictions.

Mrs. Heine commented that this was debated last week that going to go with a flat rate per bill is the fairest way to do this and it is unfortunate that they have 4 municipalities with varied ranges of real estate bills. Mrs. Heine felt that Mr. Dehnert's proposal penalized those jurisdictions that had larger tax collections to do because he wanted to pay them less on anything over and above 2,000 real estate tax bills when the same amount of work is done for the first 2,000 as is done for the rest.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he spoke to the Royersford and Spring City tax collectors after last week's meeting and got an understanding about the substantial effort they put into the job and are will basically get barely minimum wage or less for the amount of hours they must put in.

Mrs. Heine disagreed with this saying that is why the \$2,000 was added back to account for this as the remaining expenses are covered by the district in accordance with the law.

Mrs. Zasowski stated that the district is leveling the playing field and they should be paid the same amount for the same job.

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

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. General Fund Checks

Check No. 163401 – 164080	\$3,873,839.13
ACH 161700221 - 161700329	\$ 894,828.32

2. Capital Reserve Checks

Check No. 1228-1232	\$ 61,755.29
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3. Food Service Checks

Check No. 13163 – 13260	\$ 139,074.21
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4. Procurement Payments

201601388 – 201601571	\$ 189,557.25
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- C. The following monthly Board reports were approved:
- Cash Balances – Liquidity
 - Skyward Reports
 - General Fund Check Register
 - Athletic Fund Check Register
 - Capital Reserve Check Register
 - Food Service Check Register
 - Summary Revenue Report
 - Summary Expense Report
- D. The Board approved the Preliminary General Fund Budget for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$157,935,917.00.
- E. The Board approved filing with the Department of Education the 2017-2018 referendum exceptions for Special Education Expenditures (Approximately \$1,353,792.00) and Retirement Contributions (Approximately \$420,742.00), for a total estimated amount of \$1,774,534.00. These referendum exceptions represent 1.7% and could be used for allowable millage over the Act 1 State Index cap amount of 2.5%. Exceptions are permitted due to the recognition that there are extraordinary district expenses above the rate of inflation.
- F. The Board authorized Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 1600 Black Rock Road in Upper Providence Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 61-00-01252-00-1 setting the assessments of the property at \$20,513,000 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-17) and \$20,476,500 for tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-18) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.
- G. The Board authorized Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 594 W. Ridge Pike (Condo 1) in Limerick Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 37-00-03770-00-9 setting the assessments of the property at \$619,150 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$661,850 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14), \$676,800 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15), \$613,810 for tax year 2015 (school tax year 2015-16), \$599,940 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-17), and \$598,870 for tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-18) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.
- H. The Board gave approval for the for the disposal of unsold pianos that are no longer in use within the district.
- I. The Board approved the amended **Resolution 2017-01** which establishes the elected tax collector compensation commencing for the 2018-2019 school year. **(Attachment A6).**
- J. The Board approved the following **independent contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Associations, the Home and School Leagues, the Parent Teacher Associations, the Parent Teacher Organizations or an outside source:

1. **Jacy Good and Steve Johnson – White Plains, NY.** Provide 2 assemblies for the 9th and 10th grade high school students entitled “Hang Up and Drive”. Funding will be paid by the High School Student Council and shall not exceed \$1,500.00.
 2. **Thom Stecher & Associates – Malvern, PA.** Provide Resiliency Services for the 2016-2017 school year district-wide in support of Unity Day and Resiliency Programs taking place in the schools. Funding will be paid from the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant and shall not exceed \$5,000.00.
 3. **PMHCC, Inc./SE Regional MH Services Coordination Office – Norristown, PA.** Provide Youth Mental Health First Aid Training for 90 staff member participants district-wide. Services will include three concurrent trainings of 30 participants per training for a total of 8 hours of curriculum training per session. Funding will be paid from the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Grant and shall not exceed \$4,500.00.
- K. The Board approved the following independent contracts:
1. **Corey Jones – Westerville, OH.** Provide 2 assemblies for all students at Royersford Elementary School entitled “Good Choice, Bad Choice, My Choice”. Funding will be paid from the Royersford Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$1,300.00.
 2. **Visiting Nurse Group, Inc. – Exton, PA.** Provide Nursing services during the 2016-2017 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 9 hours per day for 118 days at a rate of \$43.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$45,666.00.
 3. **The Pathway School – Norristown, PA.** Provide Educational services during the 2016-2017 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 108 days at a rate of \$283.33 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$30,599.64.
 4. **Kara Canale – Collegeville, PA.** Provide Psychological services during the 2016-2017 school year for students who require initial psychoeducational evaluations and/or re-evaluations, write reports, attend IEP meetings, and maintain communication with school staff and parents. Services will be provided for 37.5 hours per week for 12 weeks at a rate of \$70.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$31,500.00.
 5. **Deaf-Hearing Communication Centre – Swarthmore, PA.** Provide Professional Sign Language Interpretation services for meetings and events held within the school for special needs students/families as per the IEPs. This is an updated contract due to an increase in fees as of January. Services will be provided for a total of 24 hours during the 2016-2017 school year. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$1,548.00.
 6. **The Montgomery County Intermediate Unit – Norristown, PA.** Provide Behavior Consultation services during the 2016-2017 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$13,500.00.

7. **The Chester County Intermediate Unit – Downingtown, PA.** Provide Educational services for a special needs student during the 2016-2017 school year at The Learning Center (Career Academy Program) as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$27,462.49.
8. **The Chester County Intermediate Unit – Downingtown, PA.** Provide Educational services for two special needs students during the 2016-2017 school year at Technical County High School (TCHS) – Pickering Campus as per their IEPs. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$55,650.80.
9. **LifeWorks Schools at Foundation Behavioral Health – Doylestown, PA.** Provide Educational services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 95 days at a rate of \$320.00 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$30,400.00.
10. **Bucks County Intermediate Unit – Doylestown, PA.** Provide Speech and Language Therapy services for a special needs student who will be attending LifeWorks Schools at Foundation Behavioral Health. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$1,980.00.
11. **Theraplay, Inc. - West Chester, PA.** Provide Direct Speech and Language Therapy for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 1 hour per week for 24 weeks at a rate of \$90.00. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$2,160.00.

New Independent Contracts

12. **Custer's Garage – Pottstown, PA.** Provide Transportation services for elementary Curriculum Based Instruction trips for special needs students as outlined in their IEPs. Transportation will be provided for up to 50 total trips during the 2016-2017 school year at an average rate of \$250.00 per trip. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$12,500.00.
13. **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit – Norristown, PA.** Provide a Bilingual Psychologist and Speech Clinician to complete an evaluation for an Early Intervention Student. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,000.00.

VII. PROPERTY

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

- A. The Board approved the service contract for district-wide mowing for the first year of a three-year option with Black Forest Landscaping & Snowplowing, Inc., as per the RFP. The total cost for Year 1 is \$1,309.00 per mowing based on an average of twenty-three mowings per year. Funding will come from the 2017-2018 General Maintenance Budget.
- B. The Board approved the continuation of the contract for district-wide cleaning services for Year 2 of a three-year RFP with Interstate Maintenance Corporation of Horsham, PA. The total cost of Contract #1 is \$777,159.96 beginning June 1, 2017 through May 31, 2018. Contract #2 is \$28.85 per hour per employee and Contract #3 will be billed

at \$26.00 per hour per employee. Funding will come from the 2017-2018 General Maintenance Budget.

- C. The Board approved having Schiller and Hersch Associates, Inc., Blue Bell, PA oversee the specification and bidding for the High School Auditorium Dimming System and LED Lighting retrofit per hourly base as per their fee schedule. Funds will come from the Capital Reserve and shall not exceed \$8,000.00.

VIII. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

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

The following individuals were approved for attendance at the following:

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Dr. Allyn Roche**, Assistant Superintendent, and **Elizabeth Leiss**, Director of Human Resources to attend the *"Mandated Reporter Certified Training"* at HealthSpark Foundation in Colmar, PA on February 13, 2017. The total cost for this training is \$30.00 (registration). No substitutes are needed.
- B. **Christine Raber**, Supervisor of Special Education, and **Katie Davis**, Coordinator of Special Education, to attend *"2017 PDE Bureau of Special Education Annual Conference"* at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center from March 8th through March 10th, 2017. The total cost of this conference is \$739.00 (registration, mileage and lodging). No substitutes are needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- C. **Ashley Bilotti**, Business Teacher/FBLA Advisor and **Douglas Reigner**, 9th Grade House Principal/Director of High School Student Activities, to attend *"Future Business Leaders of America State Leadership Competition and Conference"* at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center in Hershey, PA from April 3rd through April 5th, 2017. Ms. Bilotti will attend April 3rd and April 4th, Mr. Reigner will attend April 4th and April 5th and accompany those students who have advanced to the state level of competition. The total cost to attend this conference is \$923.00 (registration, lodging and two days of substitute coverage for Ms. Bilotti).
- D. **Seth Jones**, Band Director, **Emily McGranahan**, Orchestra Director, and **Yvonne O'Dea**, Choral Director, to attend *"PMEA All-State Conference and In-Service"* in Erie, PA from April 19th through April 22nd, 2017. Mr. Jones, Ms. McGranahan and Mrs. O'Dea will accompany students who have qualified for All-State Ensembles. The total cost for this conference is \$3,522.00 (registration, lodging, meals and three days of substitute coverage for all three teachers).
- E. **Yvonne O'Dea**, Choral Director, to attend the *"National Association for Music Education Eastern Division Conference"* in Atlantic City, NJ from April 5th through April 8th, 2017. Mrs. O'Dea will be accompanying Jarod Moyer, a student, who was selected to the All-East Honor's Ensemble. The total cost for this conference is \$1,348.38 (registration, mileage, lodging, meals and three days of substitute coverage).

- F. **Jamie Scheck**, Teacher/Head Varsity Baseball Coach and **Ryan Souder**, Teacher/Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach, to attend the *"Be the Best Baseball Coaches Convention"* in Atlantic City, NJ on January 27, 2017. The total cost for this conference to the district is \$300.00 (for one day of substitute coverage for both teachers). All other costs are being picked up by the employees and the Athletic Booster Club.
- G. **Chadwin Brubaker**, Media Specialist/Head Football Coach, **Dale Bergman**, Teacher/Assistant Football Coach and **James Mich, Jr.**, Teacher/Assistant Football Coach, to attend the *"2017 PSFCA Coaches Clinic"* in State College, PA from February 8, 2017 through February 10, 2017. Mr. Brubaker will attend the entire conference and Mr. Bergman and Mr. Mich will attend only on February 10, 2017. The total cost of this conference for the district is \$600.00 (two days of substitute coverage for Mr. Brubaker and one day of substitute coverage for both Mr. Bergman and Mr. Mich). All other costs are being paid through the Athletic Booster Club.
- H. **Jeanette Walker**, Teacher, to participate in the *"APEX Learning Comprehensive Courses Professional Development On-Line"*. The total cost for this three hour on-line training is \$600.00 (registration) and will be paid from the Curriculum and Instruction Budget.

BROOKE

- I. **Jo-Ann Messer** and **Patricia Stroop**, Special Education Teachers, to attend *"Zones of Regulation-Strategies to Foster Self-Regulation, Emotional Control Social Skills and Executive Functioning in Students"* in Mount Laurel, NJ on February 23, 2017. The total cost of this conference is \$542.00 (registration, mileage and one day of substitute coverage for Mrs. Messer).

OAKS

- J. **Sandra Cerniglia** and **Tara Chester**, ESL Teachers, to attend *"Utilizing the Learning A-Z Bundle ESL"* at the MCIU in Norristown, PA on January 10, 2017. The total cost of this conference is \$338.79 (mileage and one day of substitute coverage for both teachers). Substitute coverage is being paid from Title III Funds.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. DiBello asked that Item C be separated.

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

- A. The Board approved sending **Jarod Moyer**, Spring-Ford High School Senior, to the 2017 National Association for Music Education Eastern Division Conference. Jarod was selected to the All-East Honor's Ensemble taking place in Atlantic City, New Jersey from April 5th through April 8th, 2017. Jarod will be accompanied by Mrs. Yvonne O'Dea. The total cost for Jarod to attend shall not exceed \$500.00 (registration, lodging, meals and local transportation while in attendance).

B. The following policies were approved:

1. Policy #117 – PROGRAMS: Homebound Instruction (**Attachment A7**)
2. Policy #201.1 – PUPILS: Admission of Beginners/Early Entrance (**Attachment A8**)
3. Policy #247 – PUPILS: Hazing (**Attachment A9**)

Mr. DiBello asked Mr. Fitzgerald to reread the statement he wanted included in the motion. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the motion should include the following as the last sentence. "The final version of both MOU's will be subject to final review of the solicitor's office".

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve Item C with the amended wording and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

- C. The Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Montgomery County Children and Youth and Chester County Children and Youth which outlines the transportation plan for students in Foster Care, according to the new ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) regulations. This MOU is due to the state on January 31, 2017. The final version of both MOU's will be subject to final review of the solicitor's office.
- D. The Board approved the acceptance of a donation and installation of a plastic bottle greenhouse in the courtyard at Limerick Elementary School as part of an Eagle Scout Project. This greenhouse will allow plants and seedlings to be grown all year long and is in line with the Green Initiatives taught in the schools. There will be no cost to the district.

X. BOARD COMMENT

Mr. DiBello stated that tentatively they are scheduling the Town Hall Meeting for March 23rd most likely at the 9th Grade Center. He advised everyone to watch for more information regarding this. Mr. DiBello next commented that when we had been talking about developing a focus group with regards to making sure we had enough information before talking about doing away with class ranking he had mentioned that once before they developed a focus group for something different. He stated that the first couple of the focus group meetings were pretty good but at each meeting they saw less and less participation from the community. Mr. DiBello stated that he had struggled to remember what those meetings had been for but then remembered during the week that they had been for the modernized learning initiative at the high school. Mr. DiBello had thought previously that the focus group may have been for Project Lead the Way but they were not. He reported that PLTW meets twice a year and they are extremely important as they go along with our certification. Mr. DiBello reported that the meetings they had have been extremely successful and will continue to be extremely successful in the future. Mr. DiBello stated that for clarity once again he wanted to say that the proposed resolution that they were updating from the last time was fair and equitable. Mr. DiBello stated that each tax collector received \$9,000 and there was a stipulation as far as how \$5,000 of that went towards the per capita and \$4,000 went towards operations plus a \$.80 per bill. Mr. DiBello added that the resolution that was just approved this evening was an increase per bill from \$.80 to \$2.00 per bill as well as contributing \$2,000 on top what they are allowed to put in for reimbursement of expenses from the district. Mr. DiBello said he just wanted to make sure that everyone is clear on this that a portion of the cost for the soft-ware the tax collectors use is reimbursable based on the percentage of bills they collect for Spring-Ford. Mr. Fink confirmed this is correct. Mr. DiBello said he cannot attest for what was done in

the past. He added that they need to be realistic on the money that is coming into the district and the decision made has no bearing on one community versus another. Mr. DiBello stated that if Spring City or Royersford are not in the position moving forward to collect the Spring-Ford taxes then one option could be for us to do this in-house.

Mr. Dehnert commented that the tax collectors were only being paid \$10,000 under the old formula and the taxes collected amount to millions of dollars. Mr. Dehnert stated that in fairness the district never talked with the people doing the work to find out what it takes to do that work. He added that fairness is not in the eyes of the people doing the work but only in the eyes of some of the people on the Board.

Dr. Dressler stated that in the interest of fairness from his eyes he feels it is important for tax collectors to be aware of what are reasonable expenses that they can be reimbursed for as the reimbursement has been a little bit stringent. He felt that the tax collectors need to become a little more aware of what are reimbursable expenses. Mr. Fink commented that he believes the expenses are very clear in the tax collector manual.

XI. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Christina Melton, Limerick Township, thanked the Board for working tirelessly and putting forth all their time, effort and who volunteer to make the district better by providing educational opportunities for our students and who certainly have brought a lot of positive growth and development to the community.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

On November 21, 2016 the Work Session of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:41 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Bernard F. Pettit and Kelly J. Spletzer
Region II: Dawn R. Heine and Colleen Zasowski
Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi and Mark P. Dehnert
Presiding Officer: Thomas J. DiBello
Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin
Chief Financial Officer: James D. Fink
Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.
Student Reps.: Daniel J. Ciresi and Taylor Stevens

The following Board Members were absent: **Todd R. Wolf** and **Dr. Edward T. Dressler**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Danny thanked the students of the 7th Grade Center saying that last week they raised nearly \$550.00 for Project Outreach. He reported that since 2000 the 7th Grade Center has raised money for Project Outreach through a “Turkiest Teacher” coin collection fundraiser. This year, students nominated more than 10 teachers to participate in the collection, then voted for the Turkiest Teacher by donating spare change in designated teacher buckets. The 2015 Turkiest Teacher winner, Mr. Cifelli, passed the Turkiest Teacher hat and trophy to Mr. Rendick just before student council members presented a check to Project Outreach.

Mr. DiBello reported that the Board met in an Executive Session prior to tonight’s meeting to discuss personnel items.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Siggins thanked the Board for the opportunity to be here this evening and introduced Delores McCarter and Patricia Flynn, Guidance Counselors who rotate between the 7th and 8th Grade Centers. Dr. Siggins stated that while the 8th Grade Center’s primary function is to prepare kids for 9th grade, it takes a lot of people to do this. Dr. Siggins commented that they are very fortunate at the middle grade level to have 4 quality counselors who really go above and beyond for the students.

Mrs. Flynn stated that they are here tonight to share some exciting new things that they are doing at the 8th Grade Center including some new programs this year to support both the students and their parents/guardians.

Mrs. McCarter expressed thanks for the support the guidance staff receives from Dr. Siggins and Mrs. Rineheimer. Mrs. Flynn explained how they foster good communication

with their parents through monthly e-mail blasts. Mrs. McCarter spoke about how they support new students who arrive at the 8th Grade Center as this can be a great source of anxiety. One of the supports used are student ambassadors who help them navigate the building, have lunch with them and even help them get on the right bus. Mrs. Flynn next spoke about how the Guidance Department encourages pro-social development through monthly building themes. The October theme was "Anti-Bullying" and October 19th was National Unity Day. Students were encouraged to wear orange in support of the cause and sign a pledge. A banner was created by Jason Kerkusz, 8th Grade Art Teacher, and students were able to sign the banner showing their pledge against bullying. The banner was on display showing the signatures of many students. The theme for November is Gratitude and being appreciative of what you have. The counselors spoke about the incentive programs in place at the 8th Grade Center and stated that they have been well received by the students. A prize wheel was on display and the counselors explained how the incentive program works.

Dr. Goodin asked about the parent email blast wondering if there was any way to track to see how many people are reading them and Dr. Siggins and Mrs. Flynn replied that they do not think it can be tracked but have heard from many parents how great they felt the program was and offered help through donations for the prize wheel.

Mr. DiBello stated that it seems like there is a lot of enthusiasm being generated at the 8th Grade Center and he asked how tough it was to get the kids to sign the banner. Mrs. Flynn responded that they only hung the banner 1 day during the lunch periods and the student willingness to sign was great. Mr. DiBello asked if they felt all these activities were making an impact on students and the counselors both replied yes.

A. **Dr. Michael Siggins**, Principal, **Mrs. Delores McCarter** and **Mrs. Patricia Flynn**, Guidance Counselors, to present on Counseling Initiatives at the 8th Grade Center.

Dr. Goodin commented that tonight they will be presenting the Proposed Preliminary Budget. Dr. Goodin advised that the presentation will look at the Act 1 timeline, the methodology and challenge of putting together the proposed preliminary budget at this time, an overview of the five-year forecast development, the high level expenditures and revenues and the next steps of the overall 2017-2018 budget process.

Mr. Fink stated that when he came here to the district initially they built a budget model that started with each department and building. They incorporated things known such as employment contracts and other agreements, debt service structure, facility costs, and departmental costs. Educated assumptions were made about the revenue and the district growth throughout the year. These things were rolled up into master budget forms including an easy way to put those numbers into the state mandated forms. Mr. Fink advised that the model that was built also allowed them to make changes to their assumptions on the fly and actually see the impact those changes would have as they moved along and ran their scenario analysis. Mr. Fink stated that the next thing to do is to take the budget model and roll that into a five-year rolling forecast. Mr. Fink relayed that this budget model will allow them to identify bumps in the road well before they happen and solutions can be planned early. He presented a five year overview of salaries, wages, taxes and benefits. Mr. Fink next presented the debt service schedule covering a 20 year span. Mr. Fink showed the Curriculum forecast for the next five years with regards to the major items they are looking at but did not include the normal day to day expenditures. Mr. Fink next presented the five year forecast model for district revenues using the trends from previous years that were analyzed, applied and rolled forward. Mr. Fink went through the highlights of the proposed preliminary budget. Mr. Fink reported that the 2017-

2018 Act 1 index was 2.5% and the estimated referendum exceptions total approximately \$1.7 million or about 1% point per million dollars. Mr. Fink advised that the next steps are to sharpen pencils, thoroughly examine each expense line, file for PDE exceptions and keep an eye on what is taking place in Harrisburg.

Mr. DiBello spoke about exceptions they could apply for which means they could potentially increase taxes to roughly just over 4%. Mr. DiBello clarified that this is following the entire Act 1 process and it is not saying that we are raising taxes by this amount but rather that the district must do the paperwork following the state's timeline. Mr. DiBello stated that it is frustrating as we don't know where the state will come in at until it gets closer to the time that we are approving our budget but yet we are pushed to this schedule. Mr. DiBello thanked Mr. Fink and his staff for their work on the five-year rolling forecast as it provides a clearer picture of what to expect with the budget. Mr. DiBello stated that he is thrilled that we are at this point.

Mrs. Zasowski commented that when she first came onto the Board there was not a lot of concrete information for her to follow but Mr. Fink's presentation this evening made everything clear and easy to follow.

Mr. Ciresi acknowledged Mr. Fink on a great presentation saying it is one of the easiest to follow. Mr. Ciresi spoke about the disconnect at the state level and the fact that they are not giving the district a clear indication of where they are going. The state touts that they are giving record amounts to education but this is deceiving as any amount given is an increase over them giving nothing previously. Mr. Ciresi urged the public to contact their legislators to say that they need to change the budget process and have the state budget in place by May 30 so that we know what funding we are getting prior to it having to approve our budget on June 30th. Mr. Ciresi thanked Mr. Fink and felt that the five-year projection is a great addition to the budget process.

Mrs. Zasowski commented that the district was faced with the same problem last year in having to have a budget without in place without a state budget being approved. She added that the budget process becomes a guessing game and pointed out that in our home budgets we do not guess at what our payments are going to be

Mrs. Heine advised that once we lock in our budget we are stuck and if the state decides to give us less money we are stuck and must figure out how to operate with less money. Mrs. Heine also urged taxpayers to contact their legislators regarding the budget deadlines so that the district could have the state budget information prior to having to lock in ours. She stated that it may be possible to go with a 0 % tax increase if we knew how much state funding we were getting.

Mr. DiBello pointed out that the district is seeing on average about a 5% growth per year from an expense standpoint and this is tough to make up. Mr. DiBello reported that the district gets roughly \$25 million from the state which does not provide anywhere near the 5% growth we are seeing. Mr. DiBello expressed hope that the district will be able to sharpen its pencils and reduce the gap as much as possible.

Mr. Pettit commented that with the state facing a \$2 billion deficit going forward he did not believe we will see any significant increase in money from the state. He urged the public to ask their legislators to review the PSERS issue.

- B. **Dr. David R. Goodin**, Superintendent of Schools, and **Mr. James D. Fink**, Chief Financial Officer, to present the 2017-2018 Proposed Preliminary Budget for the Spring-Ford Area School District.

III. ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-F and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. Ciresi commented that all of the resolutions on the agenda for approval are accomplishments that our students keep getting year after year. He stated that this is an example of why we do what we do. He added that it is great to see all of these commendations and resolutions. Mr. DiBello advised that all these groups and individuals will be recognized next week.

- A. The Board approved **Resolution 2016-30** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Girls' Tennis Team** and their coaches Todd Reagan and Ryan Rendick for winning the 2016 Pioneer Athletic Conference Championship. (**Attachment A1**).
- B. The Board approved **Resolution 2016-31** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Girls' Soccer Team** and their coaches Timothy Leyland, Lauren Brock and Heather Nikki Lynch for winning the 2016 Pioneer Athletic Conference Championship. (**Attachment A2**).
- C. The Board approved **Resolution 2016-32** commending **Benjamin Pochet**, a member of the **Spring-Ford High School Boys' Golf Team** and his coaches Jeffrey Mast, Gerald Hollingsworth and Daniel Butterweck for winning the 2016 PIAA District One and PIAA East Regional Boys' Golf Championships. (**Attachment A3**).
- D. The Board approved **Resolution 2016-33** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Boys' Golf Team** and their coaches Jeffrey Mast, Gerald Hollingsworth and Daniel Butterweck for winning the 2016 PIAA District One Championship. (**Attachment A4**).
- E. The Board approved **Resolution 2016-34** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Boys' Cross Country Team** and their coaches Brian Sullivan, Heather Giovagnoli, John Kraynak and Matthew Varady for winning the 2016 Pioneer Athletic Conference Championship. (**Attachment A5**).
- F. The Board approved **Resolution 2016-35** in recognition of **Seth R. Jones** and the **Spring-Ford Area High School Golden Ram Marching Band** for successfully placing at the Cavalcade of Bands Patriot Open Championship, the US Bands State Championship and the Bands of America Regional Championship. (**Attachment A6**)

IV. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Rep. Report Daniel Ciresi/Taylor Stevens

Taylor reported that winter sports are starting now as we reach the end of November. The 8th Grade Girls' Basketball Tryouts will be held at the 8th Grade Center starting Monday, November 28th. The 7th grade tryouts will start on December 5th at the 7th Grade Center. Taylor next reported that winter cheer tryouts for 7th and 8th grade will begin after school on Monday, December 5th at the 7th Grade Center until 4:30. Spring-Ford 7th Grade Boys' Basketball Tryouts are Monday, November 28 to Thursday, December 1st at the 7th

Grade Center. The Spring-Ford High School Student Blood Drive will be held on Tuesday, November 29th in the auxiliary gymnasium from 7:30 AM - 1:00 PM. You can schedule your appointment by going to GIVEaPINT.org & use SFHS Code: 145. Taylor reminded students that in order to donate they must be at least 17 years old and weigh a minimum of 110 pounds. A photo ID must be presented at the time of your appointment. She wished everyone a great Thanksgiving.

Curriculum/Technology Dawn Heine

1st Tues. 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Heine reported that the Curriculum and Technology Committee met on November 1st and Mrs. Bast shared good news regarding the first Math Night reporting that they have over 350 registrants as well as the news that we are awaiting the official notification that we are a Project Lead the Way Certified School. The committee heard about 3 new courses for the start of the 2017-2018 school year; Technical Writing, Civil Engineering and Architecture and AP Capstone. These courses are on the agenda for approval. The committee next talked about the Global Studies Arcadia Program with a travel option to Philadelphia in the spring of 2017. The travel option is not mandatory and will be a 2 ½ day trip providing background on Refugee Employment and Advancement. Mrs. Bast shared plans for the November in-service days. The committee received a STEAM update which revealed that the Girl Powered Program was very well attended. Mrs. Gardy provided an ELA Update on the implementation of the Journey's Reading Program. Mrs. Rochlin provided an update on Math and Science and stated that they are looking forward to the first Math Night. Mrs. Heine reported that on the Technology side Mr. Webb provided a network update including wrapping up the design of the network and working with vendors on pricing. A telephony update was provided and the vendor list has been narrowed down to 2 vendors. Mr. Webb will be working with both vendors for a final design and further discussion in November. Information on this will be ready for the 2017-2018 budget. A Smartboard update was provided and revealed that the Technology Department is continuing to work on a list detailing the age of all Smartboards in the district. Mr. Webb and his team have identified the final set of cameras from the 9th Grade Center and the 10-12 Grade Center that are in need of an upgrade from analog to digital. Mr. Webb will provide additional information on this at the January Curriculum and Technology Committee meeting. Mrs. Heine reported that the Technology Department will be finishing the pilot of the IPTV which will soon replace the old coax connections from the TV studio to the classrooms. They will also be working on a recycling list but before preparing the list will work with Maker's Space to ensure that none the items to be recycled could be of use for that program. A suggestion was made to add a backup internet line in the high school and a motion for the approval of this appears on the agenda tonight. Mr. Webb advised that the mobile device management has been narrowed down to one vendor, Caper Mobile Device Management. Mrs. Heine commented that two items that were discussed and are on the agenda for approval tonight are the purchase of a 30 hour support block from Strategic Link. These hours will be used for system engineering support for district systems and initiatives. The second item on the agenda for approval is the extension of the contract with Blackboard for the provision of SchoolFusion services for six-months in order to cover the hosting of web-site services during the time period needed to fully switch the district over to the new provider. The committee also received an update on modernized learning from Dr. Nugent at the high school level. Mrs. Carboy had provided an update at the last School Board meeting so no additional update was necessary.

Mr. Dehnert asked about the overnight Global Studies Program in Philadelphia and whether the students participating are supervised. Mrs. Heine stated that the program is sponsored by Arcadia University and students will chaperoned by Arcadia staff. She indicated that the schedule students will follow was included in the board memo packet last week. Mr. Dehnert commented that he was referring to at night when students are supposed to be going to bed.

Mrs. Bast added that when they spoke with the two professors at Arcadia University they were very clear that they will err on the side of caution and know where the students were at all times.

Mr. Dehnert asked about Verizon Internet Diversity and whether it was for ISP diversity or entrance into the building diversity and Mr. Webb replied both.

Policy

Kelly Spletzer

2nd Mon. 7:30 p.m.

Mrs. Spletzer reported that the Policy Committee met and reviewed 5 policies that were a revisit from previous months. The first policy discussed was Policy 103.3 - Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students Policy. The committee decided that since laws regarding this subject are still unsettled and rapidly evolving, they would continue to table the discussion on a policy pertaining to this. Policy 247 – Hazing/Anti-Hazing was reviewed and revised and recommended for placement on the November agenda as a first reading. Policy 117 – Home-bound Instruction was also reviewed and revised and appears on tonight's agenda as a first reading. The discussion centered around changes that would address the increasing challenges with supporting students that are placed in or receiving treatment at a facility that provides educational services and then invoices Spring-Ford after the services are rendered. Policy 201.1 – Admission of Beginners – Early Entrance was reviewed. Dr. Roche provided clear data on testing of students whose birthdate did not make the August 31st cutoff date. The current policy allows for students to be tested with a birthdate all the way through January of the following year. The test results show that over-whelmingly students being tested with the further birthdate were not passing the test. Due to the costs involved and the time involved in the testing process the recommendation is that the window be shortened to September 15th rather than January 31st. Mrs. Spletzer reported that they will continue to look at the data on an ongoing basis with the thought of possibly getting rid of this exception all together. This policy is on the agenda tonight for a first reading. Dr. Roche advised that the overall results were that less than 20% of students passed the testing. He added that they looked at month by month and determined that moving the exception window from January 31st back to September 15th was best. Dr. Roche indicated that they would revisit this in a year to see what the impact may be. Mrs. Spletzer reported that the committee also went through Policy 707 – Use of Facilities line by line and feel that a large chunk of the policy can be eliminated and substituted with some verbiage saying see the facility schedule so that on an ongoing basis we can review what the costs can be for the different types of services, fee structures and type of organization classification. The committee also discussed PSBA's legal feedback on guidance for medical marijuana for PA school districts. The feedback came from the Department of Health and the Department of Education on whether parents would be able to administer medical marijuana to a student at school. Mrs. Spletzer stated that there is no discussion now on making this a policy in the school district but the committee was just discussing what PSBA is doing and what the discussion has been up to this point. Guidance is that this still is against federal law and there is no intention to make this a policy in the school district that would violate federal law. Mr. Fitzgerald explained that by the crimes code it is a violation of federal law but interestingly he suspects that what we will hear is a family or parent arguing that it would be a reasonable accommodation under another federal law. He added that in effect you will have two conflicting laws putting us right in the middle so how a policy is developed needs to balance those two conflicting realities. Mrs. Spletzer stated that it was an interesting discussion at the table and as this continues to evolve under the new administration we will have to see what happens at the federal level. Dr. Goodin offered an explanation on the distinction between marijuana which has the psychoactive ingredient THC and medical marijuana that is used as a tincture that does not have THC or produce a high. Dr. Goodin stated that he just wanted to make sure there was an understanding on the difference between the two. Mrs. Spletzer added that the committee will discuss this further at the January meeting. She also stated that they had an FYI on co-curricular activities with regards to the potential for a pre-approval process for co-

curricular activities that would involve competitions beyond a certain level. This will also be brought back to the January meeting for further discussion.

Mr. Dehnert questioned the Hazing Policy and stated that he felt the definition should clearly state that you cannot do any action that does humiliate or demean someone.

Finance

Tom DiBello

2nd Tues. 7:30 p.m.

Mr. DiBello reported that the Finance Committee met and reviewed the monthly reports and with only two months into the school year it is tough to make any conclusions or decisions but as of now it appears that the financials are trending and seem to be on target as per budget. Mr. DiBello reminded the board that last month they talked about the refinancing of the bonds with a projected savings of \$3.2 million over a 9 year period but it looks like the actuals will be in the \$3.9 million range. Mr. DiBello commented that on the agenda this evening there are 4 assessment appeals which will have a net impact on the district of about \$30,000. Mr. DiBello reported that a protocol was put in place a few years ago when they were dealing GSK to set aside funds that can be used for these payments. Mr. DiBello pointed out that on the agenda this evening are two items; one being a fixed asset tracking module which is a Skyward add-on and the second is an accounts receivable module which is also a Skyward module. Mr. DiBello commented that the major part of the meeting was focused on discussing the 2017-2018 proposed preliminary budget which was already presented tonight.

Property

Joseph Ciresi

2nd Tues. 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Ciresi reported that the Property Committee met on November 15th and discussed the standard yearly contracts that must go out to bid. The committee was provided information on the bleachers at the high school and the fact that they will need to be examined by an engineer to ensure that they are safe and no maintenance work needs to be done. The committee also discussed the turf field and the fact that it has come to end of its lifespan of 8-10 years. The field is at the 8 year mark and this upcoming summer we may have to go through the replacement of the field. Mr. Ciresi reported that there is also a fence that will be going up as part of the new walking path at Oaks Elementary as it is too close to Black Rock Road. Mr. Ciresi commented that on the agenda you will see a motion about moving forward with a contract to draw the schematics for the possible addition of the physical education addition and also the music area addition. Mr. Ciresi noted that there was no dollar amount in the motion and he asked Mr. Fitzgerald if there would be a figure for this motion at the next meeting. Mr. Fitzgerald replied he had hoped so but they were still in discussions with the attorney for Crabtree Rohrbaugh and he stated that he would like to be able to come back to the Board next week with a virtually complete contract including numbers that could be approved with the exception being that it would be subject to solicitor review. Mr. Ciresi stated that he would like to recommend that the Board have the opportunity prior to the meeting on Monday night to see what they are looking at which could prove difficult to do so it may have to be moved to a December meeting. Mr. Ciresi advised that also on the agenda is a motion for a contract with Center Stage which is for the lighting, sound and rigging in the theater in order to make sure we are up to par in making any additions, fixing whatever it is that we need to do for productions. Mr. Ciresi reported that they also discussed the replacement of trees on Lewis Road, shed repairs around Coach McNelly Stadium and equipment training for some of our staff especially at the stadium.

Mr. Dehnert questioned the architect's fee and why the district would not consider competitively bidding something that was going to cost well over ½ million dollars. Mr. Dehnert also questioned awarding this to the company who recommended through the feasibility study that this work be done. Mr. Fitzgerald replied that from a legal perspective this is a service so it does not have to

be competitively bid under the school code so how the district wishes to engage the services of an architect is at the Board's discretion but there is no procurement requirement under state law on how you would engage an architect. Mr. Dehnert stated that he is not talking about a legal requirement but rather a good business sense requirement. Dr. Goodin added that most contracts of this sort are stipulating that approximately 7% of the project costs are going to go towards schematic design. Mr. Cooper confirmed what Dr. Goodin stated and added his input on the longer process incurred by going through the bidding process. Dr. Goodin commented that the district was dealing with a very reputable firm across the state as far as working in schools and Mr. Cooper added that he has interviewed many architects over the years in doing various projects throughout the district and we did not just pick this one out of a hat. Mr. Dehnert stated that it did not get away from the fact that we are giving a sole source \$500,000 - \$700,000 when you can provide the contract that you want and they will bid to that and we can award the contract only to a qualified contractor. Mr. Dehnert asked why we would automatically pay 7% when we could possibly negotiate to pay less than 7%. Dr. Goodin stated that while that may be true you are not necessarily going to pick up an architect that has the experience in schools like you have with Crabtree Rohrbaugh.

Mr. DiBello asked what the projected cost was for the schematic design and Mr. Cooper and Dr. Goodin replied that it was approximately \$110,000. Mr. DiBello advised that he would not approve this motion next week without a dollar figure. Mr. Cooper and Mr. Fitzgerald agreed and stated that they will provide a dollar amount for next week. Mr. DiBello stated that the point he is getting to is that we are not agreeing to give an architect \$500,000 or-\$700,000 but rather agreeing to enter into an agreement that has 6-7 steps with an architecture firm and within that agreement there is a first step to create the schematic design at a cost of \$140,000 - \$150,000. Mr. DiBello pointed out that there would be a go or no go vote at each step along the way so the process can be stopped at any point along the way.

Mr. Dehnert commented that in correspondence Dr. Goodin shared with the Board there was a breakdown of the fees and his understanding of this is that if we would approve a contract and if we carried out the whole project we would pay 7% of whatever the project cost was. Mr. Dehnert added that the figure used in the correspondence was the low end figure which makes our cost \$545,000. Mr. Dehnert stated that the first piece of this is the design phase which is 20% of that fee. Mr. Dehnert said unless we have the ability to terminate the agreement we would be committed to Crabtree for the project moving onto the next step. Mr. DiBello replied that there is a go or no go decision at each step. Mr. Dehnert argued that we are committed to Crabtree unless the agreement has termination rights in it. Mr. Dehnert said that rather than talk about a contract that does not exist yet, after the solicitor's office negotiates it he would like a copy to be provided to the Board so that they can look at it before they vote on it. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the contract is not at a point that it can be shared where they have a final version. Mr. Dehnert stated that they should just wait and see what it says and then they can decide which way to go. He added that he is always in favor of competitively bidding. Mr. Fitzgerald replied that he does not know a district that would ever bid that type of service. Mr. Dehnert commented that they probably overpay.

Mr. Ciresi expressed his hope that they can move this process forward or end the process as he does not want to see them get back on the hamster wheel. He stated that this is no different than any other construction project done in the district. Mr. Ciresi commented that as a Board they can either vote this up or vote it down and move forward. He stated that he hoped that at the next meeting they can see the terms so they know what the final number is. Mr. Ciresi commented that he is disappointed that this is on the agenda without a number but he understands why but he would caution seeing it on another agenda without a number.

Asst. Supt. Rpt.

Dr. Allyn J. Roche

Dr. Roche reported that starting in November he had scheduled himself to spend a full day of school in each of the 7 elementary schools. He stated that it was a great experience to spend the entire day at each school as he had a chance to sit in many, many classrooms and talk to students, teachers, staff members and a few parents. Dr. Roche stated that he also had the opportunity to assist in the cafeteria, monitor the recess yard, and be available to help out with arrival and dismissals. He expressed thanks to the faculty, staff and administrators for a series of great events that took place across the District during the month such as Family Math Night, Veteran's Day Assemblies, American Education Week Programs in all of the schools, Unity Days, Parent Night Out with Thom Stecher, In-Service Presentations and Workshops, Parent-Teacher Conferences and tonight's parent program at the 10-12 center titled Opioid Awareness for Parents. Dr. Roche invited district families to attend Family Tech Night where parents can learn what kids are doing on the internet and how to keep their children safe while online. Information on this evening will be available in the near future through the district's website and through our social media outlets.

Mr. DiBello asked about the Irish students who have been visiting the district the past two weeks and if there was any update on their visit. Dr. Roche indicated that he had spoken to Mr. Landis who oversees the Irish Exchange Program and he advised that all was going extremely well and everything about the visit had been positive. Mr. DiBello asked if the students were in fact heading back to Ireland this weekend and Dr. Roche confirmed this.

Solicitor's Report

Mark Fitzgerald

Mr. Fitzgerald commented that as mentioned there are 4 assessment appeal settlements on the agenda for approval next week. He stated that these are agreements that have been the Business Office and the Solicitor's Office. Mr. Fitzgerald added that generally speaking they are comfortable with where the settlements are coming in. Mr. Fitzgerald advised that if these matters do not settle they will most likely be fast-tracked to a trial.

Mr. Dehnert asked what the tax loss would be from these settlements and Mr. Fink replied it was about \$30,000 per year on an on-going basis.

V. MINUTES

There were no comments or questions.

- A. Administration recommends approval of the October 17, 2016 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A7)**

VI. PERSONNEL

There were no comments or questions.

A. Resignations

1. **Catherine M. Brittingham**; Instructional Assistant, Brooke Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: November 18, 2016.
2. **Gina Davila**; Instructional Assistant, 5/6th Grade Center. Effective: November 3, 2016.
3. **Daniel J. Fox**; Asst. Wrestling Coach, 7/8/9th Grades. Effective: October 28, 2016.

4. **David M. Frankel**; Social Studies Teacher, 8th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: January 25, 2017.
5. **Daniel J. Hoff**; Asst. Basketball Coach-Boys, Senior High School. Effective: October 25, 2016.
6. **Thomas J. Hontz**; Asst. Wrestling Coach, Senior High School. Effective: October 26, 2016.

B. Support Staff Employees

1. **Cristin M. Arbaugh**; Instructional Assistant, Brooke Elementary School, replacing Catherine M. Brittingham who retired. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: November 28, 2016.
2. **Corinda D. Bergey**; Instructional Assistant, Royersford Elementary School, replacing Shannon C. Sheridan who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: November 17, 2016.
3. **Marissa R. Bowlby**; College Career Coordinator, Senior High School, replacing Kathleen E. McNeil who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$45,000.00 prorated with benefits. Effective: November 14, 2016.
4. **Lindsay A. Brock**; 10-month IT Support Technician, Senior High School, replacing Joseph A. Giampa who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$19.40/hour with benefits. Effective: November 7, 2016.
5. **Carli R. Ducko**; Instructional Assistant, Evans Elementary School, replacing Emily A. Peden who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: November 17, 2016.
6. **Marissa R. Hoffman**; Instructional Assistant, Upper Providence Elementary School, replacing Marlo A. Oslon who had a change of assignment. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: November 7, 2016.
7. **Stefani Mortimer**; Instructional Assistant, Evans Elementary School, replacing Karen E. Doyle who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: November 14, 2016.
8. **Maria Van Horn**; Instructional Assistant, Brooke Elementary School. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: November 28, 2016.

C. Personnel Information Items

The individual listed below has completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as a temporary professional employee and is, therefore, entitled to tenure status:

1. **Christopher Talley** Upper Providence Elementary School

- D. Administration recommends approval of the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2016-2017 school year. **(Attachment A8)**

VII. FINANCE

There were no questions or comments.

- A. Administration recommends approval for 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. General Fund Checks

Check No. 162820 – 163400	\$3,425,426.96
ACH 161700145 - 161700220	\$ 467,201.76

2. Capital Reserve Checks

Check No. 1226-1227	\$ 4,155.42
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3. Food Service Checks

Check No. 13032 – 13162	\$ 114,816.17
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4. Procurement Payments

201601248 – 201601387	\$ 164,545.41
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- C. The following monthly Board reports are submitted for your approval:

- Cash Balances – Liquidity
- Skyward Reports
 - General Fund Check Register
 - Athletic Fund Check Register
 - Capital Reserve Check Register
 - Food Service Check Register
 - Summary Revenue Report
 - Summary Expense Report

- D. The Board of School Directors authorizes Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the properties located at 5 Kugler Road in Limerick Township (condo 100, condo 200 and common elements) and further identified as tax parcel Nos. 37-00-03772-20-5, 37-00-03772-21-4 and 37-00-03772-22-3 setting the total assessment of the properties at \$2,958,000 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$2,958,000 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14), \$3,423,600 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15), \$3,105,000 for tax year 2015 (school tax year 2015-16), \$3,034,800 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-17) and \$3,029,400 for tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-18) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the assessment of the properties pursuant to applicable law.

- E. The Board of School Directors authorizes Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 341 10th Avenue (Condo unit 6) in Limerick Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 37-00-01522-00-7 setting the assessments of the property at \$696,000 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$744,000 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14), \$760,800 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15), \$690,000 for tax year 2015 (school tax year 2015-16), \$674,400 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-17) and \$673,200 for tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-18) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.
- F. The Board of School Directors authorizes Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 536 Jones Blvd. in Limerick Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 37-00-01242-04-4 setting the assessments of the property at \$2,436,000 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$2,604,000 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14), \$2,662,800 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15), \$2,415,000 for tax year 2015 (school tax year 2015-16), \$2,360,400 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-17) and \$2,356,200 for tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-18) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.
- G. The Board of School Directors authorizes Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 100 Thoms Drive in Upper Providence Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 61-00-04470-37-4 setting the assessments of the property at \$1,993,750 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$2,131,250 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14), \$2,179,375 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15), \$1,976,563 for tax year 2015 (school tax year 2015-16), \$1,931,875 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-17) and \$1,928,438 for tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-18) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.
- H. Administration recommends approval to make public the 2017-2018 Proposed Preliminary Budget for the required 20 days and advertise the Board's intent to adopt the Preliminary Budget on January 23, 2017.
- I. Administration recommends approval to seek bids and/or participate in the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit bids for supplies for the 2017-2018 school year. Supplies would include but not be limited to custodial, art, paper, physical education, science, technology education and furniture.
- J. Administration recommends approval for a High School Activities account for the 2016-2017 school year. Each activity group has completed signature records and a listing of officers.
- K. Administration recommends approval for an 8th Grade Center Activities account for the 2016-2017 school year. Each activity group has completed signature records and a listing of officers.
- L. Administration recommends approval for a 7th Grade Center Activities account for the 2016-2017 school year. Each activity group has completed signature records and a listing of officers.

- M. Administration recommends approval for the establishment of the Class of 2020 High School Activities account.
- N. Administration recommends approval of a revised amount for the confidential settlement agreement (#2016-05 previously approved at the June 2016 Board meeting in the amount of \$1,731.00 for 2016-2017 and \$1,731.00 for 2017-2018). In Lieu of FAPE with the parents of a special needs student this revision includes an additional amount for transportation in the amount of \$1,066.20 for 2016-2017 and \$1,066.20 for 2017-2018. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$2,797.20 for 2016-2017 and \$2,797.20 for 2017-2018.
- O. Administration recommends approval of the following **independent contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Associations, the Home and School Leagues, the Parent Teacher Associations, the Parent Teacher Organizations or an outside source:
1. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide 2 assemblies for kindergarten students at Evans Elementary School entitled *“Winter Secrets”*. Funding will be paid by the Evans Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$660.00.
 2. **Schoolsculptures with Kevin Reese LLC – Washington, DC.** Provide an Artist in Residence Program enabling 3rd grade students to experience creativity, teamwork, and collaboration of ideas as they design a permanent sculpture to be displayed at Upper Providence Elementary. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School Organization and shall not exceed \$7,000.00.
- P. Administration recommends approval of the following independent contracts:
1. **Daniel Levy – New York, NY.** Provide four museum exhibitions for students in grades 1-4 at Upper Providence Elementary School entitled *“Eureka – The Invention Show”*. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$1,350.00.
 2. **Chester County Intermediate Unit – Downingtown, PA.** Provide a 1-1 Assistant for a special needs student who attends The Vanguard School. Services will be provided during the first two quarters of the 2016-2107 school year for 7.5 hours per day for 90 days at a rate of \$32.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$21,600.00.
 3. **Kidspace National Centers – Schnecksville, PA.** Provide Educational services for a special needs student during the 2016-2017 school year as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 180 days at a rate of \$161.53 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$29,075.00.
 4. **Bucks County Intermediate Unit – Doylestown, PA.** Provide a 1-1 Assistant for a special needs student who attends Woods Services. Services will be provided for the 2016-2017 school year. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$41,055.30.

5. **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit – Norristown, PA.** Provide Personal Care Assistant services for a special needs student who will be transitioning back to the district from the Martin Luther School. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$21,070.00.
6. **Anderson Explorations PHP – Eagleville, PA.** Provide Educational and Mental Health services for special needs students during the 2016-2017 school year as per their IEPs. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$25,000.00.
7. **Education Alternatives – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Educational services for the 2016-2017 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Direct Program Supervision will be provided for 20 hours per month for 9 months at a rate of \$95.00 per hour (\$17,100.00). In addition, one staff member trained in CPI Nonviolent Crisis Intervention will provide PCA services for 140 hours per month for 9 months at a rate of \$32.00 per hour (\$40,320.00). Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$57,420.00.
8. **Lakeside Educational Network – Souderton Vantage Academy.** Provide Educational services for a special needs student during the 2016-2017 school year as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 4 days at a rate of \$236.25 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$945.00.
9. **The Timothy School – Berwyn, PA.** Provide Educational services for a special needs student for the 2016-2017 school year as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$67,400.00.
10. **Education Alternatives – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide 1-1 Support services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 6.5 hours per day for 50 days at a rate of \$32.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$10,400.00.
11. **Devereux Schools – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Extended School Year and related services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,358.00.
12. **Education Alternatives – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Direct Applied Behavior Analysis services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 8 hours per month for 10 months at a rate of \$95.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$7,600.00.
13. **Education Alternatives – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Direct Applied Behavior Analysis services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 14 hours per month for 10 months at a rate of \$95.00 per hour (\$13,300.00). In addition, Direct 1-1 Intervention shall be provided for 4 hours per week for 42 week at a rate of \$32.00 per hour (\$5,376.00). Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed a total of \$18,676.00.
14. **Dr. Claudia Chernow, Psychologist – Dresher, PA.** Conduct a psychiatric evaluation of a special needs student and provide a written report. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$2,000.00.

15. **Spring-Ford Family Practice (Pottstown Medical Specialists, Inc.) – Pottstown, PA.** Perform state mandated school physical examinations, provide standing orders and consultation regarding school-based medical issues during the 2016-2017 school year as requested by parents/guardians. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed \$18.00 per student physical.
16. **Jack Bracale, DMD – Royersford, PA.** Perform state mandated dental screenings of students in grades 3 and 7 during the 2016-2017 school year as requested by parents/guardians. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed \$5.00 per screening.
- Q. Administration recommends approval of the reimbursement to a parent of a special needs student for an Independent Educational Evaluation. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,800.00 for the completion of the evaluation, the written report and participation in the follow up meeting.

VIII. PROPERTY

There were no questions or comments.

- A. Administration recommends approval to award a contract for Snow Removal Services district-wide to C&C Landscaping Inc. – Glen Clarke, Royersford, PA the lowest responsible hourly RFP. The cost will be \$68.00 per hour/per truck, \$70.00 per hour/per 6 wheel dump truck, \$85.00 per hour for skid loader, and \$125.00 per hour for loader. Funding will come from the 2016-2017 Maintenance Budget.
- B. Administration recommends approval to develop specifications for re-paving district-wide as per the Capital Improvement Plan. This work will be completed over the summer of 2017. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve.
- C. Administration recommends approval to go out to bid and or receive RFPs for the Maintenance Department Service Contracts district-wide for the 2017-2018 school year. All of these bids and RFPs will be placed on the June 2017 Board Agenda for approval. Funding will come from the 2017-2018 Maintenance Budget.
- D. Administration recommends approval to obtain a structural engineer to review and provide a report regarding footings and foundation for the bleachers for both the home and visitors side at McNelly Stadium. The report will be inclusive of their findings and suggestions if there are any repairs needed. This information will be brought back to the Property Committee for discussion as per the annual inspection report. Total costs for the engineer will come from the 2016-2017 Maintenance Budget.
- E. Administration recommends having a fence installed at the walking path at Oaks Elementary School beside Blackrock Road for safety reasons. Total cost for the fence shall not exceed \$3,500.00 and will come from the 2016-2017 Maintenance Budget.
- F. Administration recommends approval to enter into the AIA agreement involving the Performing Arts and Fitness areas addition as presented at the September Board Meeting. After final solicitor approval, it is recommended to move onto the schematic design phase of the project for total design and cost as per the agreement.

- G. Administration recommends approval to enter into an agreement with Center Stage Lighting and Rigging Inc. to provide training for Spring-Ford Technology personnel to oversee and work with the students and staff for school functions which involve lighting and sound in the auditoriums. The price is based on initial training on a flat rate of \$4,000.00 for 8 hours of training and a per hour cost of \$35.00/hr. plus travel for any re-training if needed. Funding will come from the Technology Budget.
- H. Administration recommends approval for annual repairs at Ram Stadium to be completed by Hummer Turfgrass Systems Inc. The costs are split on an annual basis between Spring-Ford Area School District and the Spring City American Legion. Spring-Ford's portion of the annual repairs and upgrades is a total of \$4,220.00. Funding will come from the 2016-2017 Maintenance Budget.
- I. Administration is recommending replacing the dead Pin Oak trees along Lewis Road and Washington Street that were damaged by disease. The replacement trees will be a different species of Oak and shall not exceed \$6,000.00. Funding will come from the 2016-2017 Maintenance Budget.

IX. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

There were no questions or comments.

- A. Administration recommends approval of an overnight Global Studies Program trip. As part of the Global Studies Program with Arcadia University we will be offering Introduction to Public Health (PBH110) in the spring of 2017. As part of this course, Arcadia University will run a three-day learning experience from Wednesday, April 12, 2017 to Friday, April 14, 2017 allowing students who are part of the spring program the opportunity to do direct public health service work in conjunction with Nationalities Service Center in Philadelphia. The total cost to participate is \$325.00 per student and shall be paid by the students directly to Arcadia University. There will be no cost to the district.
- B. Administration recommends approval of the following new courses for the 2017-2018 school year. Board approval is requested so that administration may begin the process of planning for curriculum development, budgeting, and inclusion of the course in the student's course guide.

NEW COURSES FOR SPRING-FORD SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL 2017-2018

1. AP Capstone:

This is a new program offered by College Board that consists of two courses: AP Research and AP Seminar. We had to apply and were accepted into the 2017-2018 cohort and will be among the first schools to offer this in the United States. These two courses will count as English credit, as the content and skills developed mirror our PA Core Standards in English. AP College Board describes AP Capstone this way: *AP Capstone™ is a College Board program that equips students with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills that are increasingly valued by colleges. It cultivates curious, independent, and collaborative scholars and prepares them to make logical, evidence-based decisions. AP Capstone is comprised of two AP courses — AP Seminar and AP Research — and is designed to complement and enhance the discipline-specific study in other AP courses.* AP Seminar would be available for students in grades 10-12 and would be a pre-requisite for the AP Research course, made available to students in grades 11 & 12.

Staffing:

Additional staffing would likely not be needed to run AP Seminar, but with the addition of AP Research in 18-19, staff may be needed.

Cost:

AP Training	\$ 2,000.00
Textbooks	\$ 4,400.00
Initial Materials	\$ 400.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,800.00

2. Project Lead the Way: Civil Engineering & Architecture:

The PLTW Pathway To Engineering (PTE) Program is a sequence of courses which which follows a proven hands-on, real-world problem-solving approach to learning. Throughout PTE, students learn and apply the design process, acquire strong team-work and communication proficiency, and develop organizational, critical-thinking, and problem-solving skills. Students use the same industry-leading 3D design software used by companies like Intel and Lockheed Martin. It's STEM education, and it's at the heart of today's high-tech, high-skill global economy. In our fourth course offering Civil Engineering and Architecture, students learn important aspects of building, site design and development, and then they apply what they know to design a commercial building. This course would be a major course with honors weight, open to any interested 11th or 12th grade student who has completed Introduction to Engineering Design and Principals of Engineering.

Staffing:

Current staff would be utilized if enrollment numbers warrant. As the program grows, we anticipate needing additional staff.

Cost:	Start Up	Recurring
Training for 1 teacher	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 0.00
Lab Inventory	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 0.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,400.00	\$ 0.00

3. Technical Writing:

This minor course will provide an alternative English course for students who are interested in engineering and/or technical careers after high school. This course would be open to any qualified 10th, 11th or 12th grade student.

Staffing:

Current staff would be utilized if enrollment numbers warrant.

Cost:

Textbooks	\$2,000.00
Initial Materials & Curriculum Writing (Teacher Resources & Supplemental Items)	\$ 800.00
TOTAL	\$2,800.00

- C. Administration recommends approval to purchase the Fixed Assets Software module and the Accounts Receivable Software module from Skyward plus training, implementation and software maintenance fees. The total cost shall not exceed \$31,000.00 and will be funded from the Capital Reserve.

- D. Administration recommends approval of a 6 month extension of the contract with Blackboard for the provision of SchoolFusion Services from 1/1/17 through 6/30/17. The purpose of this extension is to cover the hosting of website services during the time period needed to fully switch the district over to the new provider. Funding will be paid from the Technology Budget and shall not exceed \$9,134.97 for this 6 month extension.
- E. Administration recommends approval of the purchase of Casper Mobile Device Management Solution to be used by the Technology Department to manage district-owned mobile devices. The total cost shall not exceed \$15,100.00 and will be paid from the 2016-2017 Technology Budget.
- F. Administration recommends approval for the addition of Verizon FiOS to provide internet redundancy. The 2 year contract shall not exceed \$500.00 a month and will be paid out of the 2016-2017 Technology Budget.
- G. Administration recommends approval to purchase a 30 hour support block from Strategic Link. The hours will be used for System Engineering support for district systems and initiatives. The total cost shall not exceed \$4,800.00 and will be paid from the 2016-2017 Technology Budget.
- H. Administration recommends approval for Catalyst Prep to host a two-day SAT Bootcamp to be facilitated at the 10-12 Grade Center on Saturday, May 20, 2017 and Sunday, May 21, 2017 in the Hurda Learning Center. The cost per student is \$150.00 and will be paid by students directly to Catalyst Prep. Catalyst Prep will reimburse the district \$150.00 for facility costs. There is no cost to the district.

X. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

There were no questions or comments.

The following individuals are recommended for attendance at the following:

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Dr. Edward T. Dressler, Jr.**, Board Member, to attend the “*NSBA Annual Conference and Exposition*” at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado from March 24, 2017 through March 27, 2017. The total cost of this conference is \$2,400.00 (registration, airfare, transportation, lodging and meals).
- B. **Richard Grove**, System Technician, to attend “*Global Knowledge Enterprise Wi-Fi Administration*” in Arlington, Virginia from March 6, 2017 through March 10, 2017. The total cost of the conference is \$4,002.36 (registration, mileage, lodging and meals). No substitute is needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- C. **Barbara Paige**, Speech Therapist, to attend “*The Use of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Programming in Your Classroom: Evidenced-based Teaching Strategies*” at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on April 20, 2017. The total cost of this conference is \$150.00 (for one day of substitute coverage).

- D. **Kathryn Kruemmling, Nancy McDonough, and Indira Pothukuchi**, Teachers, to attend *"T1 Tips: Build 8th Grade/Algebra 1 Confidence with Graphing Calculators"* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on December 6, 2016. The total cost of this conference is \$495.00 (mileage and one day of substitute coverage for each teacher).

8th GRADE CENTER

- E. **Patricia B. Flynn**, School Counselor, to attend *"LGBTQ Students – Creating Safe Schools"* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on December 5, 2016. There is no cost for this conference and no substitute is needed.

DISTRICT-WIDE

- F. **Heidi Rochlin**, Curriculum Supervisor - Math and Science, **Megan Ames, Sue Choi, Karen Connors, Amy Parsia, and Sheryl Wagenseller**, Teachers, to attend *"Grades 3-5: How to Implement Tasks that Promote Reasoning and Problem Solving"* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on December 1, 2016. The total cost of this conference is \$1,290.00 (registration, mileage and substitute coverage).
- G. **Justin Webb**, Director of Technology, **Sandra Bernat**, Manager of Technology, and **Kathleen Cox**, Software Specialist, to attend *"Pennsylvania Education Technology Expo and Conference (PETE&C)"* at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center from February 12 through February 17, 2017. The total cost of this conference is \$3,156.00 (registration, transportation, lodging and meals). No substitutes are needed.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

There were no questions or comments.

- A. Administration recommends approval of the revised 2016-2017 school calendar. **(Attachment A9)**
- B. Administration recommends the approval for all 2016-2017 Winter Athletic Teams/Individuals that qualify for post season play to be granted permission for overnight travel, when deemed necessary by the Athletic Department, and approved by the Superintendent or their Designee. The School Board will be notified of this travel and Board approval will be sought at the next scheduled Board meeting. Funding will be paid from the Athletic Budget.
- C. Administration recommends approval of the following high school winter sport teams for overnight travel during the 2016-2017 school year. There will be no cost to the district as funds for lodging and meals will be paid from the respective team's Booster Club Account.

Wrestling

1. Cumberland Valley Tournament – Mechanicsburg, PA
Cumberland Valley High School
Depart 12/9/16 - Return 12/10/16
Meals and lodging provided by the Wrestling Team Booster Club Account
The team will use district transportation

2. Manheim Central Holiday Tournament – Manheim, PA
Manheim Central High School
Depart 12/28/16 – Return 12/29/16
Meals and lodging provided by the Wrestling Team Booster Club Account
The team will use district transportation

Girls' Basketball

3. Tina Thompson She's Got Game Tournament – National Showcase - Washington, DC
Elizabeth Seton High School
Depart 12/9/16 – Return 12/10/16
Meals and lodging provided by the Girls' Basketball Team Booster Club Account
The team will use district transportation

Indoor Boys' & Girls' Track

4. New Balance Games (Runners/Throwers/Jumpers must qualify) – New York, NY
The Armory
Depart 1/21/17 – Return 1/22/17
Meals and lodging will be provided by the Indoor Track Team Booster Club Account
The team will use district transportation

D. The following policies are submitted for a first reading:

1. Policy #117 – PROGRAMS: Homebound Instruction (**Attachment A10**)
2. Policy #201.1 – PUPILS: Admission of Beginners/Early Entrance (**Attachment A11**)
3. Policy #247 – PUPILS: Hazing (**Attachment A12**)

XII. BOARD COMMENT

Mr. Ciresi commented that each year for about the past 6 years they have done a Board Back to School Day Program and this year it did not take place. Mr. Ciresi indicated that he had a conversation with Dr. Goodin about this and one reason it did not occur was because of the lack of Board participation in the event the previous year. Mr. Ciresi stated that the reason the program was put in place was because many of the Board Members had not been in school in a lot of years so it was more for the Board to go back in the classroom and see what it is like to be a student. Mr. Ciresi clarified that this was not a teacher observation or an administrator observation but more for them to know and feel what it is like to be a student again. Mr. Ciresi added that this experience helps as they sit here at the table and make decisions. Mr. Ciresi stated that he knows the Board Members have busy schedules but he would like to see if this program could not be implemented again in some way as it is very important, especially if someone does not have a child any longer in the system. Mr. Ciresi expressed hope that this program could be run possibly later this year and he challenged the Board to take this unique opportunity.

Mr. DiBello commented that he believes the Board, as they get more information on the high school expansion project, should engage the community possibly through a town hall meeting. Mr. DiBello stated that he feels the Board needs to look at how they can educate the community on the hows and whys of the project, explain the need, address some of the misconceptions that are out there and allow for the public to give their position on the project. Mr. DiBello commented that he is not taking a position one way

or the other on the project but is just saying that they need to start forward thinking about how they are going to engage the community as we continue forward.

XIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Andreina Erwin, Royersford, questioned what Mr. Dehnert was expecting from the bidding process and if it was the cheapest price. Mr. Dehnert replied that he was looking for the lowest price that meets our needs. Mrs. Erwin asked if when we did the illumination system for the stadium if that was through the bidding process and Mr. Fitzgerald responded that it likely would have been done through a state contract or it would have been bid. Mrs. Erwin asked if it was bid and Mr. Fitzgerald replied likely yes. Mrs. Erwin commented that it was a really bad system and she knows this for a fact as she takes the pictures for the marching band. Mrs. Erwin added that if is what Mr. Dehnert is looking for then that is what you are going to get. Mr. Dehnert stated that he has 22 years' experience in sourcing, contracting, and purchasing and in the private sector they rarely just sole source things because you can get what you need if you specify what you want and you competitively bid it. Mrs. Erwin replied that she also had worked in the construction industry for 3 years in Venezuela so she knows a little bit about the bidding system and if you are going to be looking for the cheapest then that is what you are going to get. Mr. Dehnert stated that you should be looking for the lowest price that meets your requirements. Mrs. Erwin next spoke about the 11% county proposed property tax for Montgomery County. Mrs. Erwin advised that there will be a meeting on December 1st and she was sure that this would be passed along to us the county. Mrs. Erwin wanted to make sure that it would not be taken that this tax hike was coming about due to the new addition. Mr. DiBello clarified that the county tax has nothing to do specifically with Spring-Ford but has to do with running the overall county. Mr. DiBello reported that last year they proposed a little more than a 30% tax increase and this year they are proposing 11%. Mr. DiBello explained that homeowners receive 3 tax bills and the county and township bills come out around March and the real estate tax bill comes out in August. Mr. DiBello reiterated that the 11% increase in the county tax bill has nothing to do with the school tax bill. Mr. DiBello agreed with Mrs. Erwin in that he does not want anyone to think that the county is raising taxes 11% and we are seeing this as it has nothing to do with us. Mrs. Erwin stated that she just wanted to make sure that we have clarification on this as it will be spread around that this is happening because we want an addition.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Spletzer seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

On November 28, 2016 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:	Dr. Edward T. Dressler
Region II:	Dawn R. Heine and Colleen Zasowski
Region III:	Joseph P. Ciresi and Mark P. Dehnert
Presiding Officer:	Thomas J. DiBello
Superintendent:	Dr. David R. Goodin
Chief Financial Officer:	James D. Fink
Solicitor:	Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.
Student Reps.:	Taylor Stevens

The following Board Members were absent: Bernard F. Pettit, Kelly J. Spletzer and Todd R. Wolf

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Taylor announced that the winter concert season will be here before you know it and she reported that the Spring-Ford School District homepage has a complete listing of school concert events, dates and times. Taylor added that the Spring-Ford Music Department strives to make every student musically literate through creative, engaging, and sequential instruction so they can find meaning in the art of music.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Mr. DiBello announced that the Board met in an executive session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel items and no decisions were made.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Mr. McDaniel thanked the Board on behalf of the Athletic Department and all of the student-athletes for the opportunity to recognize all of young men and young women who have won championships this year. Mr. McDaniel added that the Athletic Department would also like to congratulate the Golden Ram Marching Band on the success they have had this year. Mr. McDaniel introduced the Girls' Tennis Team and their coaches and presented them with a resolution from the Board in recognition of their winning the 2016 PAC Championship.

- A. Presentation of **Resolution 2016-30** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Girls' Tennis Team** and their coaches Todd Reagan and Ryan Rendick for winning the 2016 Pioneer Athletic Conference Championship. (**Attachment A1**).

Mr. McDaniel introduced the Girls' Soccer Team and their coaches and presented them with a resolution from the Board in recognition of their winning the 2016 PAC Championship.

- B. Presentation of **Resolution 2016-31** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Girls' Soccer Team** and their coaches Timothy Leyland, Lauren Brock and Heather Nikki Lynch for winning the 2016 Pioneer Athletic Conference Championship. (**Attachment A2**).

Mr. McDaniel introduced Benjamin Pochet a member of the Boys' Golf Team and his coaches and presented them with a resolution from the Board in recognition of his winning the 2016 PIAA District One and PIAA East Regional Boys Golf Championships.

- C. Presentation of **Resolution 2016-32** commending **Benjamin Pochet**, a member of the **Spring-Ford High School Boys' Golf Team** and his coaches Jeffrey Mast, Gerald Hollingsworth and Daniel Butterweck for winning the 2016 PIAA District One and PIAA East Regional Boys' Golf Championships. (**Attachment A3**).

Mr. McDaniel introduced the Boys' Golf Team and their coaches and presented them with a resolution from the Board in recognition of their winning the 2016 PIAA District One Championship.

- D. Presentation of **Resolution 2016-33** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Boys' Golf Team** and their coaches Jeffrey Mast, Gerald Hollingsworth and Daniel Butterweck for winning the 2016 PIAA District One Championship. (**Attachment A4**).

Mr. McDaniel introduced the Boys' Cross Country Team and their coaches and presented them with a resolution from the Board in recognition of their winning the 2016 PAC Championship.

- E. Presentation of **Resolution 2016-34** commending the **Spring-Ford Area High School Boys' Cross Country Team** and their coaches Brian Sullivan, Heather Giovagnoli, John Kraynak and Matthew Varady for winning the 2016 Pioneer Athletic Conference Championship. (**Attachment A5**).

Mr. DiBello commented that he wanted to recognize all of the groups. He stated that this is a great time of year when we recognize all of the success

Mr. Jones commented that tonight they were recognizing the Marching Band as they had a very successful competitive season. Mr. Jones announced that this year their final achievement was that they were crowned the Cavalcade of Bands Champions for the 6th time which culminated a great season. This year they were also crowned the Pennsylvania Class 6 Champions for the state and they were one of only two bands for Pennsylvania to be crowned for finalists at the Bands of America Show which is on the national circuit. Mr. Jones stated that there had been some pretty fantastic growth and experiences for the kids in the program. Mr. Jones spoke of the rewarding experience he is having as the band director as other schools and bands look towards Spring-Ford as what everyone else in the state should aspire to. Mr. Jones commented that all of the success and recognition is largely in thanks due to the School Board and Administration who have done a fantastic job in enabling decisions that allow the district to grow. Mr. Jones presented resolutions to the members of the Marching Band and the Board recognized them for their achievements.

Mr. DiBello spoke of the success of the Athletic Department and the Music Department and stated that the success does not come without a lot of hard work and dedication. Mr. DiBello expressed how proud the Board and the district is of these teams and individuals.

- F. Presentation of **Resolution 2016-35** in recognition of **Seth R. Jones** and the **Spring-Ford Area High School Golden Ram Marching Band** for successfully placing at the Cavalcade of Bands Patriot Open Championship, the US Bands State Championship and the Bands of America Regional Championship. **(Attachment A6)**

III. **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

WMCTC

Ciresi, Dressler, Heine

1st Mon. 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Dressler reported that the Joint Operating Committee met on November 7th where Mr. Moritzen reported on the Sports Medicine Open House which took place on October 19th. Dr. Dressler reported that 50 families turned out to see the new 3000 square foot facility. Dr. Dressler added that the facility is designed to have a maximum of 30 students enrolled and already there have been applications to get into the program. Dr. Dressler advised that Girls Night Out took place on November 16th. He announced that next month on December 7th the Western Center will hold their own Open House at 7:00 PM.

Personnel

Bernard Pettit

(As Needed)

There was no report.

PSBA Liaison

Dr. Edward Dressler

There was no report.

Legislative Committee

Dawn Heine

3rd Weds. 7:30 p.m.

There was no report.

MCIU

Tom DiBello

4th Weds. 7:00 p.m.

There was no report.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin reported that Tuesday, November 29th, is the fifth annual celebration of Giving Tuesday. He stated that since its inaugural year in 2012, Giving Tuesday has become a movement that celebrates and supports giving and philanthropy within our community. It's an easy way to be a part of something big that includes what you care about. He advised that to participate the public can visit the Spring-Ford website and select a parent organization such as our elementary PTO or Home and School group, Spring-Ford Booster Club, Music Association, Educational Foundation, or SNAP. He added that they can make a charitable gift or volunteer their time with any of Spring-Ford's support organizations. Dr. Goodin thanked the Board for their continued support of the district operations, recognizing the athletic teams and extracurricular events. He added that there is a great winning tradition in the district and a great tradition of building character within our students and this all starts from the top down. Dr. Goodin thanked all of the parents of the students recognized as well as the students for coming out this evening.

Solicitor's Report

Mark Fitzgerald

There was no report.

Mr. DiBello spoke of an anonymous letter he received about the district not recognizing Veterans or showing support of our veterans on Veteran's Day. He stated that he was surprised at the letter and wanted to address this as Spring-Ford has a long tradition of recognizing and doing something to honor our veterans. Mr. DiBello commented that all of our schools in one way or another have planned events or have had conversations in the classrooms about the importance of Veteran's Day. Mr. DiBello provided this brief

overview of some of the activities that occurred throughout the district in recognition of our veterans on Veteran's Day:

- Brooke Elementary – 4th grade students visited SE Veterans Center in Spring City
- Oaks Elementary – There was a musical put on by the 2nd graders and there were also classroom visits by the veterans
- Royersford Elementary – Held an assembly for their students along with veterans
- Spring City Elementary – Held a Veteran's Day Celebration
- Upper Providence – Had a Wall of Honor in the hallway close to the lobby where families shared pictures of family members who were veterans
- 5th/6th Grade Center – Held Veteran's Day Assemblies to honor our veterans and any of their family members who were able to attend
- Veterans visited many of our schools throughout the day
- Articles highlighting the activities appeared in the Mercury and on The Patch.
- RCTV did a video on Veteran's Day

Mr. DiBello stated that as a district we take Veteran's Day very seriously and we are proud of all of the activities that occur throughout the district. Mr. DiBello commended the administration and the staff for all of their efforts in putting the many activities together.

IV. MINUTES

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

- A. The Board approved the October 17, 2016 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A7)**

New Minutes

- B. The Board approved the October 24, 2016 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A8)**

V. PERSONNEL

Mr. Ciresi made a motion to approve Items A-E and Mr. Dehnert seconded it.

Dr. Goodin stated that he wanted to recognize and thank the Professional and Support Staff listed on the agenda this evening who are retiring for being valued employees and for their years of service to the district.

The motion passed 6-0.

A. Resignations

1. **Catherine M. Brittingham**; Instructional Assistant, Brooke Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: November 18, 2016.
2. **Gina Davila**; Instructional Assistant, 5/6th Grade Center. Effective: November 3, 2016.
3. **Daniel J. Fox**; Asst. Wrestling Coach, 7/8/9th Grades. Effective: October 28, 2016.
4. **David M. Frankel**; Social Studies Teacher, 8th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: January 25, 2017.

5. **Daniel J. Hoff**; Asst. Basketball Coach-Boys, Senior High School. Effective: October 25, 2016.
6. **Thomas J. Hontz**; Asst. Wrestling Coach, Senior High School. Effective: October 26, 2016.

New Resignation

7. **Susan E. Fryer**; English Teacher, 7th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: June 15, 2017.

B. Support Staff Employees

1. **Cristin M. Arbaugh**; Instructional Assistant, Brooke Elementary School, replacing Catherine M. Brittingham who retired. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: November 28, 2016.
2. **Corinda D. Bergey**; Instructional Assistant, Royersford Elementary School, replacing Shannon C. Sheridan who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: November 17, 2016.
3. **Marissa R. Bowlby**; College Career Coordinator, Senior High School, replacing Kathleen E. McNeil who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$45,000.00 prorated with benefits. Effective: November 14, 2016.
4. **Lindsay A. Brock**; 10-month IT Support Technician, Senior High School, replacing Joseph A. Giampa who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$19.40/hour with benefits. Effective: November 7, 2016.
5. **Carli R. Ducko**; Instructional Assistant, Evans Elementary School, replacing Emily A. Peden who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: November 17, 2016.
6. **Marissa R. Hoffman**; Instructional Assistant, Upper Providence Elementary School, replacing Marlo A. Oslon who had a change of assignment. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: November 7, 2016.
7. **Stefani Mortimer**; Instructional Assistant, Evans Elementary School, replacing Karen E. Doyle who resigned. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: November 14, 2016.
8. **Maria Van Horn**; Instructional Assistant, Brooke Elementary School. Compensation has been set at \$17.36/hour (degree rate) with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: November 28, 2016.

New Support Staff Employee

9. **Tyler F. Emel**; Audio Visual Technician, Senior High School. Compensation has been set at \$23.00/hour with benefits. Effective: December 5, 2016.

C. Personnel Information Items

The individual listed below has completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as a temporary professional employee and was granted tenure status:

1. **Christopher Talley** Upper Providence Elementary School

- D. The Board approved the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2016-2017 school year. **(Attachment A9)**

New Personnel Motion

E. Professional Employee

1. **Jeanette M. Walker**; Special Education Teacher, Senior High School, replacing Ryan N. Souder who had a change of assignment. Compensation has been set at MS, Step 7, \$52,700.00, prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: To be determined.

VI. FINANCE

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-Q and Mr. Ciresi seconded it.

Mr. Ciresi commented that tonight the Board is approving the Proposed Preliminary Budget to put out for the public to see which is not the real budget but rather the proposed preliminary budget. Mr. Ciresi stated that he wanted to reiterate that as of today we still do not know what the state is giving the district in the budget. Mr. Ciresi expressed that the district is being asked to approve a budget in a vacuum without knowing what the state is giving us. Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Fitzgerald to explain what the consequences are if the Board does not approve a budget. Mr. Fitzgerald replied that it could be seen as a dereliction of duty and there could be a petition to remove Board Officers as a result. Mr. Ciresi asked what the law was with regards to the state mandate to come up with a budget and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that there was none. Mr. Ciresi stated that they need to stand united as School Boards across the state and tell the state that they need to have a budget in place before we do.

Mrs. Heine stated that she wanted to reiterate that this is a preliminary budget and is by no means the final budget. Mrs. Heine added that as Mr. Ciresi mentioned we do not know what our numbers are from the state and it is up to our business office as well as the Finance Committee and other members of the School Board to work hard to get to a lower percentage as that is their goal. Mrs. Heine stated that this is what is required of them but as mentioned these are strictly preliminary numbers.

Mrs. Zasowski stated that it is interesting that there are repercussions for them as volunteers but not for the people that are in the state offices and paid to be there. Mrs. Zasowski said it is a guessing game but it is as calculated as it can be but truly the district should have the state's numbers.

The motion passed 6-0.

- 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. General Fund Checks

Check No. 162820 – 163400	\$3,425,426.96
ACH 161700145 - 161700220	\$ 467,201.76
 2. Capital Reserve Checks

Check No. 1226-1227	\$ 4,155.42
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 3. Food Service Checks

Check No. 13032 – 13162	\$ 114,816.17
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 4. Procurement Payments

201601248 – 201601387	\$ 164,545.41
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- C. The following monthly Board reports were approved:
- Cash Balances – Liquidity
 - Skyward Reports
 - General Fund Check Register
 - Athletic Fund Check Register
 - Capital Reserve Check Register
 - Food Service Check Register
 - Summary Revenue Report
 - Summary Expense Report
- D. The Board of School Directors authorized Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the properties located at 5 Kugler Road in Limerick Township (condo 100, condo 200 and common elements) and further identified as tax parcel Nos. 37-00-03772-20-5, 37-00-03772-21-4 and 37-00-03772-22-3 setting the total assessment of the properties at \$2,958,000 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$2,958,000 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14), \$3,423,600 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15), \$3,105,000 for tax year 2015 (school tax year 2015-16), \$3,034,800 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-17) and \$3,029,400 for tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-18) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the assessment of the properties pursuant to applicable law.
- E. The Board of School Directors authorized Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 341 10th Avenue (Condo unit 6) in Limerick Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 37-00-01522-00-7 setting the assessments of the property at \$696,000 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$744,000 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14), \$760,800 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15), \$690,000 for tax year 2015 (school tax year 2015-16), \$674,400 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-17) and \$673,200 for tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-18) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.

- F. The Board of School Directors authorized Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 536 Jones Blvd. in Limerick Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 37-00-01242-04-4 setting the assessments of the property at \$2,436,000 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$2,604,000 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14), \$2,662,800 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15), \$2,415,000 for tax year 2015 (school tax year 2015-16), \$2,360,400 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-17) and \$2,356,200 for tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-18) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.
- G. The Board of School Directors authorized Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 100 Thoms Drive in Upper Providence Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 61-00-04470-37-4 setting the assessments of the property at \$1,993,750 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$2,131,250 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14), \$2,179,375 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15), \$1,976,563 for tax year 2015 (school tax year 2015-16), \$1,931,875 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-17) and \$1,928,438 for tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-18) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.
- H. The Board approved making public the 2017-2018 Proposed Preliminary Budget for the required 20 days and advertise the Board's intent to adopt the Preliminary Budget on January 23, 2017.
- I. The Board approved seeking bids and/or participate in the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit bids for supplies for the 2017-2018 school year. Supplies would include but not be limited to custodial, art, paper, physical education, science, technology education and furniture.
- J. The Board approved a High School Activities account for the 2016- 2017 school year. Each activity group has completed signature records and a listing of officers.
- K. The Board approved an 8th Grade Center Activities account for the 2016-2017 school year. Each activity group has completed signature records and a listing of officers.
- L. The Board approved a 7th Grade Center Activities account for the 2016-2017 school year. Each activity group has completed signature records and a listing of officers.
- M. The Board approved the establishment of the Class of 2020 High School Activities account.
- N. The Board approved the revised amount for the confidential settlement agreement (#2016-05 previously approved at the June 2016 Board meeting in the amount of \$1,731.00 for 2016-2017 and \$1,731.00 for 2017-2018). In Lieu of FAPE with the parents of a special needs student this revision includes an additional amount for transportation in the amount of \$1,066.20 for 2016-2017 and \$1,066.20 for 2017-2018. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$2,797.20 for 2016-2017 and \$2,797.20 for 2017-2018.
- O. The Board approved the following **independent contracts** that are offered free of charge or are being funded by the Home and School Associations, the Home and School Leagues, the Parent Teacher Associations, the Parent Teacher Organizations or an outside source:

1. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide 2 assemblies for kindergarten students at Evans Elementary School entitled *“Winter Secrets”*. Funding will be paid by the Evans Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed \$660.00.
2. **Schoolsculptures with Kevin Reese LLC – Washington, DC.** Provide an Artist in Residence Program enabling 3rd grade students to experience creativity, teamwork, and collaboration of ideas as they design a permanent sculpture to be displayed at Upper Providence Elementary. Funding will be paid by the Upper Providence Home and School Organization and shall not exceed \$7,000.00.

P. The Board approved the following independent contracts:

1. **Daniel Levy – New York, NY.** Provide four museum exhibitions for students in grades 1-4 at Upper Providence Elementary School entitled *“Eureka – The Invention Show”*. Funding will be paid from the Upper Providence Elementary Assembly Budget and shall not exceed \$1,350.00.
2. **Chester County Intermediate Unit – Downingtown, PA.** Provide a 1-1 Assistant for a special needs student who attends The Vanguard School. Services will be provided during the first two quarters of the 2016-2107 school year for 7.5 hours per day for 90 days at a rate of \$32.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$21,600.00.
3. **Kidspace National Centers – Schnecksville, PA.** Provide Educational services for a special needs student during the 2016-2017 school year as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 180 days at a rate of \$161.53 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$29,075.00.
4. **Bucks County Intermediate Unit – Doylestown, PA.** Provide a 1-1 Assistant for a special needs student who attends Woods Services. Services will be provided for the 2016-2017 school year. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$41,055.30.
5. **Montgomery County Intermediate Unit – Norristown, PA.** Provide Personal Care Assistant services for a special needs student who will be transitioning back to the district from the Martin Luther School. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$21,070.00.
6. **Anderson Explorations PHP – Eagleville, PA.** Provide Educational and Mental Health services for special needs students during the 2016-2017 school year as per their IEPs. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$25,000.00.
7. **Education Alternatives – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Educational services for the 2016-2017 school year for a special needs student as per the IEP. Direct Program Supervision will be provided for 20 hours per month for 9 months at a rate of \$95.00 per hour (\$17,100.00). In addition, one staff member trained in CPI Nonviolent Crisis Intervention will provide PCA services for 140 hours per month for 9 months at a rate of \$32.00 per hour (\$40,320.00). Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$57,420.00.

8. **Lakeside Educational Network – Souderton Vantage Academy.** Provide Educational services for a special needs student during the 2016-2017 school year as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 4 days at a rate of \$236.25 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$945.00.
 9. **The Timothy School – Berwyn, PA.** Provide Educational services for a special needs student for the 2016-2017 school year as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$67,400.00.
 10. **Education Alternatives – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide 1-1 Support services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 6.5 hours per day for 50 days at a rate of \$32.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$10,400.00.
 11. **Devereux Schools – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Extended School Year and related services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,358.00.
 12. **Education Alternatives – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Direct Applied Behavior Analysis services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 8 hours per month for 10 months at a rate of \$95.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$7,600.00.
 13. **Education Alternatives – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Direct Applied Behavior Analysis services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 14 hours per month for 10 months at a rate of \$95.00 per hour (\$13,300.00). In addition, Direct 1-1 Intervention shall be provided for 4 hours per week for 42 week at a rate of \$32.00 per hour (\$5,376.00). Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed a total of \$18,676.00.
 14. **Dr. Claudia Chernow, Psychologist – Dresher, PA.** Conduct a psychiatric evaluation of a special needs student and provide a written report. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$2,000.00.
 15. **Spring-Ford Family Practice (Pottstown Medical Specialists, Inc.) – Pottstown, PA.** Perform state mandated school physical examinations, provide standing orders and consultation regarding school-based medical issues during the 2016-2017 school year as requested by parents/guardians. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed \$18.00 per student physical.
 16. **Jack Bracale, DMD – Royersford, PA.** Perform state mandated dental screenings of students in grades 3 and 7 during the 2016-2017 school year as requested by parents/guardians. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed \$5.00 per screening.
- Q. Administration recommends approval of the reimbursement to a parent of a special needs student for an Independent Educational Evaluation. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$3,800.00 for the completion of the evaluation, the written report and participation in the follow up meeting.

VIII. PROPERTY

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approved Items A-H and Mr. Ciresi seconded it.

Mr. DiBello noted that last week they talked about having an architecture's agreement in place and he wanted to advise that the solicitor's office is still working on that so it is not on the agenda this evening. Once it is finalized and the Board can review it then it will be determined when it will be on the agenda for a vote. Mr. DiBello stated that he had mentioned to the Board that as they proceed down this line then they should talk about planning a town hall meeting or something to that effect so that the public can be invited and have the opportunity to understand what's going on, why the decisions are being made the way they are, what the short term and long term goals are and really understand rather than go off of discussions at the local diner.

Mr. Ciresi agreed and stated that the town hall meeting should be done sooner rather than later, possibly in February or March. Mr. Ciresi stated that this will also serve to kill the rumor mill once and for all as people understand what is being proposed.

The motion passed 6-0.

- A. The Board approved awarding a contract for Snow Removal Services district-wide to C&C Landscaping Inc. – Glen Clarke, Royersford, PA the lowest responsible hourly RFP. The cost will be \$68.00 per hour/per truck, \$70.00 per hour/per 6 wheel dump truck, \$85.00 per hour for skid loader, and \$125.00 per hour for loader. Funding will come from the 2016-2017 Maintenance Budget.
- B. The Board approved developing specifications for re-paving district- wide as per the Capital Improvement Plan. This work will be completed over the summer of 2017. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve.
- C. The Board approved going out to bid and or receive RFPs for the Maintenance Department Service Contracts district-wide for the 2017-2018 school year. All of these bids and RFPs will be placed on the June 2017 Board Agenda for approval. Funding will come from the 2017-2018 Maintenance Budget.
- D. The Board approved obtaining a structural engineer to review and provide a report regarding footings and foundation for the bleachers for both the home and visitors side at McNelly Stadium. The report will be inclusive of their findings and suggestions if there are any repairs needed. This information will be brought back to the Property Committee for discussion as per the annual inspection report. Total costs for the engineer will come from the 2016-2017 Maintenance Budget.
- E. The Board approved having a fence installed at the walking path at Oaks Elementary School beside Blackrock Road for safety reasons. Total cost for the fence shall not exceed \$3,500.00 and will come from the 2016-2017 Maintenance Budget.
- F. The Board approved entering into an agreement with Center Stage Lighting and Rigging Inc. to provide training for Spring-Ford Technology personnel to oversee and work with the students and staff for school functions which involve lighting and sound in the auditoriums. The price is based on initial training on a flat rate of \$4,000.00 for 16 hours of training and a per hour cost of \$135.00/hr. plus travel for any re-training if needed. Funding will come from the Technology Budget.

- G. The Board gave approval for annual repairs at Ram Stadium to be completed by Hummer Turfgrass Systems Inc. The costs are split on an annual basis between Spring-Ford Area School District and the Spring City American Legion. Spring-Ford's portion of the annual repairs and upgrades is a total of \$4,220.00. Funding will come from the 2016-2017 Maintenance Budget.
- H. The Board approved replacing the dead Pin Oak trees along Lewis Road and Washington Street that were damaged by disease. The replacement trees will be a different species of Oak and shall not exceed \$6,000.00. Funding will come from the 2016-2017 Maintenance Budget.

IX. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-H and Mr. Ciresi seconded it.

Mrs. Heine commented on Item B1 saying that the district had to actually apply to be a part of the AP Capstone cohort and we will be one of the first schools in the United States to be offering this type of program. She stated that this is something that will continue to set Spring-Ford apart and highlight our students and our school. Mrs. Heine offered congratulations to the district, Mrs. Bast and her hard work in getting the application submitted and us accepted.

The motion passed 6-0.

- A. The Board approved an overnight Global Studies Program trip. As part of the Global Studies Program with Arcadia University we will be offering Introduction to Public Health (PBH110) in the spring of 2017. As part of this course, Arcadia University will run a three-day learning experience from Wednesday, April 12, 2017 to Friday, April 14, 2017 allowing students who are part of the spring program the opportunity to do direct public health service work in conjunction with Nationalities Service Center in Philadelphia. The total cost to participate is \$325.00 per student and shall be paid by the students directly to Arcadia University. There will be no cost to the district.
- B. The Board approved the following new courses for the 2017-2018 school year. Board approval is requested so that administration may begin the process of planning for curriculum development, budgeting, and inclusion of the course in the student's course guide.

NEW COURSES FOR SPRING-FORD SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL 2017-2018

1. AP Capstone:

This is a new program offered by College Board that consists of two courses: AP Research and AP Seminar. We had to apply and were accepted into the 2017-2018 cohort and will be among the first schools to offer this in the United States. These two courses will count as English credit, as the content and skills developed mirror our PA Core Standards in English. AP College Board describes AP Capstone this way: *AP Capstone™ is a College Board program that equips students with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills that are increasingly valued by colleges. It cultivates curious, independent, and collaborative scholars and prepares them to make logical, evidence-based decisions. AP Capstone is comprised of two AP courses — AP Seminar and AP Research — and is designed to complement and enhance the discipline-specific study in other AP courses.* AP Seminar would be available for students in grades 10-12 and would be a pre-requisite for the AP Research course, made available to students in grades 11 & 12.

Staffing:

Additional staffing would likely not be needed to run AP Seminar, but with the addition of AP Research in 18-19, staff may be needed.

Cost:

AP Training	\$ 2,000.00
Textbooks	\$ 4,400.00
Initial Materials	\$ 400.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,800.00

2. **Project Lead the Way: Civil Engineering & Architecture:**

The PLTW Pathway To Engineering (PTE) Program is a sequence of courses which which follows a proven hands-on, real-world problem-solving approach to learning. Throughout PTE, students learn and apply the design process, acquire strong team-work and communication proficiency, and develop organizational, critical-thinking, and problem-solving skills. Students use the same industry-leading 3D design software used by companies like Intel and Lockheed Martin. It's STEM education, and it's at the heart of today's high-tech, high-skill global economy. In our fourth course offering Civil Engineering and Architecture, students learn important aspects of building, site design and development, and then they apply what they know to design a commercial building. This course would be a major course with honors weight, open to any interested 11th or 12th grade student who has completed Introduction to Engineering Design and Principals of Engineering.

Staffing:

Current staff would be utilized if enrollment numbers warrant. As the program grows, we anticipate needing additional staff.

Cost:	Start Up	Recurring
Training for 1 teacher	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 0.00
Lab Inventory	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 0.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,400.00	\$ 0.00

3. **Technical Writing:**

This minor course will provide an alternative English course for students who are interested in engineering and/or technical careers after high school. This course would be open to any qualified 10th, 11th or 12th grade student.

Staffing:

Current staff would be utilized if enrollment numbers warrant.

Cost:

Textbooks	\$2,000.00
Initial Materials & Curriculum Writing (Teacher Resources & Supplemental Items)	\$ 800.00
TOTAL	\$2,800.00

- C. The Board approved purchasing the Fixed Assets Software module and the Accounts Receivable Software module from Skyward plus training, implementation and software maintenance fees. The total cost shall not exceed \$31,000.00 and will be funded from the Capital Reserve.
- D. The Board approved a 6 month extension of the contract with Blackboard for the provision of SchoolFusion Services from 1/1/17 through 6/30/17. The purpose of this extension is to cover the hosting of website services during the time period needed to fully switch the district over to the new provider. Funding will be paid from the Technology Budget and shall not exceed \$9,134.97 for this 6 month extension.
- E. The Board approved the purchase of Casper Mobile Device Management Solution to be used by the Technology Department to manage district-owned mobile devices. The total cost shall not exceed \$15,100.00 and will be paid from the 2016-2017 Technology Budget.
- F. The Board approved the addition of Verizon FiOS to provide internet redundancy. The 2 year contract shall not exceed \$500.00 a month and will be paid out of the 2016-2017 Technology Budget.
- G. The Board approved purchasing a 30 hour support block from Strategic Link. The hours will be used for System Engineering support for district systems and initiatives. The total cost shall not exceed \$4,800.00 and will be paid from the 2016-2017 Technology Budget.
- H. The Board gave approval for Catalyst Prep to host a two-day SAT Bootcamp to be facilitated at the 10-12 Grade Center on Saturday, May 20, 2017 and Sunday, May 21, 2017 in the Hurda Learning Center. The cost per student is \$150.00 and will be paid by students directly to Catalyst Prep. Catalyst Prep will reimburse the district \$150.00 for facility costs. There is no cost to the district.

X. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-G and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

The following individuals were approved for attendance at the following:

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

DISTRICT OFFICE

- A. **Dr. Edward T. Dressler, Jr.**, Board Member, to attend the *"NSBA Annual Conference and Exposition"* at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado from March 24, 2017 through March 27, 2017. The total cost of this conference is \$2,400.00 (registration, airfare, transportation, lodging and meals).
- B. **Richard Grove**, System Technician, to attend *"Global Knowledge Enterprise Wi-Fi Administration"* in Arlington, Virginia from March 6, 2017 through March 10, 2017. The total cost of the conference is \$4,002.36 (registration, mileage, lodging and meals). No substitute is needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

- C. **Barbara Paige**, Speech Therapist, to attend *“The Use of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Programming in Your Classroom: Evidenced-based Teaching Strategies”* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on April 20, 2017. The total cost of this conference is \$150.00 (for one day of substitute coverage).
- D. **Kathryn Krueemmling, Nancy McDonough, and Indira Pothukuchi**, Teachers, to attend *“T1 Tips: Build 8th Grade/Algebra 1 Confidence with Graphing Calculators”* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on December 6, 2016. The total cost of this conference is \$495.00 (mileage and one day of substitute coverage for each teacher).

8th GRADE CENTER

- E. **Patricia B. Flynn**, School Counselor, to attend *“LGBTQ Students – Creating Safe Schools”* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on December 5, 2016. There is no cost for this conference and no substitute is needed.

DISTRICT-WIDE

- F. **Heidi Rochlin**, Curriculum Supervisor - Math and Science, **Megan Ames, Sue Choi, Karen Connors, Amy Parsia, and Sheryl Wagenseller**, Teachers, to attend *“Grades 3-5: How to Implement Tasks that Promote Reasoning and Problem Solving”* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on December 1, 2016. The total cost of this conference is \$1,290.00 (registration, mileage and substitute coverage).
- G. **Justin Webb**, Director of Technology, **Sandra Bernat**, Manager of Technology, and **Kathleen Cox**, Software Specialist, to attend *“Pennsylvania Education Technology Expo and Conference (PETE&C)”* at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center from February 12 through February 17, 2017. The total cost of this conference is \$3,156.00 (registration, transportation, lodging and meals). No substitutes are needed.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

- A. The Board approved the revised 2016-2017 school calendar. **(Attachment A10)**
- B. The Board gave approval for all 2016-2017 Winter Athletic Teams/Individuals that qualify for post season play to be granted permission for overnight travel, when deemed necessary by the Athletic Department, and approved by the Superintendent or their Designee. The School Board will be notified of this travel and Board approval will be sought at the next scheduled Board meeting. Funding will be paid from the Athletic Budget.
- C. The Board gave approval for the following high school winter sport teams for overnight travel during the 2016-2017 school year. There will be no cost to the district as funds for lodging and meals will be paid from the respective team’s Booster Club Account.

Wrestling

1. Cumberland Valley Tournament – Mechanicsburg, PA
Cumberland Valley High School
Depart 12/9/16 - Return 12/10/16
Meals and lodging provided by the Wrestling Team Booster Club Account
The team will use district transportation
2. Manheim Central Holiday Tournament – Manheim, PA
Manheim Central High School
Depart 12/28/16 – Return 12/29/16
Meals and lodging provided by the Wrestling Team Booster Club Account
The team will use district transportation

Girls' Basketball

3. Tina Thompson She's Got Game Tournament – National Showcase - Washington, DC
Elizabeth Seton High School
Depart 12/9/16 – Return 12/10/16
Meals and lodging provided by the Girls' Basketball Team Booster Club Account
The team will use district transportation

Indoor Boys' & Girls' Track

4. New Balance Games (Runners/Throwers/Jumpers must qualify) – New York, NY
The Armory
Depart 1/21/17 – Return 1/22/17
Meals and lodging will be provided by the Indoor Track Team Booster Club Account
The team will use district transportation

D. The following policies are submitted for a first reading:

1. Policy #117 – PROGRAMS: Homebound Instruction (**Attachment A11**)
2. Policy #201.1 – PUPILS: Admission of Beginners/Early Entrance (**Attachment A12**)
3. Policy #247 – PUPILS: Hazing (**Attachment A13**)

XII. BOARD COMMENT

There were no Board comments.

XIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Andreina Erwin, Linfield, stated that she wanted to read something as she knows the Board will be making a decision next week regarding the expansion. Mrs. Erwin read an article that highlighted the benefits of sports and music in education. She spoke of the lengthy discussions that have taken place with regards to the high school expansion project. Mrs. Erwin commented that we have the resources to help our students be successful but cannot seem to put them together to work appropriately. Mrs. Erwin spoke about the success of her two daughters who are both former and current Spring-Ford students. She commented that she calls their success not only progress but also an American dream. Mrs. Erwin cautioned that there are people without a vision who stopping our school district from progress. She said she would like to quote Albert Einstein and stated "if I were to remain silent I would be guilty of complicity".

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Heine made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Ciresi seconded it. The motion passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

On December 5, 2016 the Reorganization Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:38 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Dr. Edward T. Dressler, Bernard F. Pettit and Kelly J. Spletzer
Region II: Dawn R. Heine, Todd R. Wolf and Colleen Zasowski
Region III: Joseph P. Ciresi, Mark P. Dehnert and Thomas J. DiBello
Presiding Officer: Diane M. Fern, Board Secretary
Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin
Chief Financial Officer:
Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.
Student Reps.: Daniel J. Ciresi and Taylor Stevens

I. CALL TO ORDER (By Board Secretary)

Board Secretary, Mrs. Fern, opened the meeting with the call to order and noting of the attendance.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING (By Mark Fitzgerald, Solicitor)

Mr. Fitzgerald explained that the Pennsylvania School Code requires that annually during the first week of December the Members of the School Board meet and reorganize. The Board will elect a new Board President and Vice President.

IV. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments from the public.

V. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF TEMPORARY BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Fern opened the floor for nominations of a Temporary Board President. Mr. DiBello nominated Mr. Pettit. There were no other nominations. Mr. Ciresi made a motion to close the nominations and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 9-0 and nominations were closed. The Board elected Mr. Pettit as the Temporary Board President by a vote of 9-0.

VI. Nominations and Election for the Office of Board President

Mr. Pettit opened the floor for nominations of a Board President. Mr. DiBello nominated Mr. Ciresi. Mr. Dehnert nominated Mrs. Spletzer. Dr. Dressler made a motion to close the nominations and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. There was a roll call vote for the Office of Board President with Mr. Dehnert and Mr. Wolf voting for Mrs. Spletzer. Dr. Dressler, Mrs. Zasowski, Mr. DiBello, Mr. Ciresi, Mr. Pettit, Mrs. Heine and Mrs. Spletzer voted for Mr. Ciresi. Mr. Ciresi was elected as the Board President by a vote of 7-2.

Mr. Ciresi thanked the Board for their support saying it is an honor. He thanked Mr. DiBello for the last year in serving as the Board President. Mr. Ciresi stated that it is a challenge at

times being the Board President and he felt Mr. DiBello did a great job serving in that capacity this past year and he thanked him for all he has done not only as the Board President but also as the chair of the Finance Committee.

VII. Nominations and Election for the Office of Board Vice President

Mr. Ciresi opened the floor for nominations of a Board Vice President. Mr. Pettit nominated Mr. DiBello. Mr. Dehnert nominated Mrs. Heine. Mrs. Spletzer made a motion to close the nominations and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. There was a roll call vote for the Office of Board Vice President with Mr. Dehnert and Mr. Wolf voting for Mrs. Heine. Dr. Dressler, Mrs. Zasowski, Mr. DiBello, Mr. Ciresi, Mr. Pettit, Mrs. Heine and Mrs. Spletzer voted Mr. DiBello. Mr. DiBello was elected as the Board Vice President by a vote of 7-2.

VIII. Vocational-Technical School Operating Committee Members – 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:

Joseph P. Ciresi	2018
Dawn R. Heine	2017
Dr. Edward T. Dressler	2016

Mr. Ciresi opened the floor up for nominations for a Board Member to serve on the Vocational-Technical School Operating Committee for a three-year term. Mrs. Heine nominated Dr. Dressler. Mr. Pettit made a motion to close nominations and Mrs. Spletzer seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. Dr. Dressler was elected to fill the three-year term on the Vocational-Technical School Operating Committee by a vote of 9-0.

IX. The Board President should designate a **Member and an **Alternate** 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. Mrs. Heine currently serves in this capacity and Mr. DiBello serves as the alternate.

Mr. Ciresi asked Mrs. Heine if she wished to continue serving in this capacity and Mrs. Heine replied that she would prefer not to as the meetings fell on a night when it was a conflict with her schedule. Mr. Ciresi opened up the floor for nominations. Mr. Pettit nominated Mr. Ciresi. Mr. Pettit made a motion to close the nominations and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. Dr. Dressler was designated to continue serving as the Montgomery County School Directors Legislative Committee. Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. DiBello if he wished to continue serving as the alternate to the Montgomery County School Directors Legislative Committee and Mr. DiBello indicated that he would.

X. The Board should also appoint a **PSBA Liaison to represent the Spring-Ford Area School District.** Dr. Dressler currently serves in this capacity.

Mr. Ciresi asked Dr. Dressler if wished to continue serving in this capacity and Dr. Dressler replied that he would. Mr. DiBello nominated Dr. Dressler. Mr. Pettit made a motion to close the nominations and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. Dr. Dressler was appointed to continue serving as the PSBA Liaison

- XI.** The Board shall appoint a **Representative** to the **Spring City American Legion**. Mr. DiBello currently serves as the representative.

Mr. Ciresi asked if Mr. DiBello wished to continue serving as the Representative to the Spring City American Legion and he replied yes. Mr. Ciresi nominated Mr. DiBello and Mr. Pettit seconded it. Mr. Ciresi made a motion to close the nominations and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. Mr. DiBello was appointed to continue serving as the Representative to the Spring City American Legion.

- XII.** Board approval is needed for the attached Listing of Work Session/Board Meeting Dates for 2017. **(Attachment A1)**

Mr. DiBello made a motion to approve the attached Listing of Work Session/Board Meeting Dates for 2017 and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The Board approved the attached Listing of Work Session/Board Meeting Dates for 2017.

- XIII.** Board approval is needed to authorize the signature of _____ as the Board President so that he/she can sign all documentation on behalf of the Board.

Mr. DiBello made a motion to authorize the signature of Joseph Ciresi as the Board President so that he can sign all documentation on behalf of the Board and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. Mr. Ciresi's signature was authorized as that of the Board President and he may now sign all documentation on behalf of the Board.

- XIV. BOARD COMMENT**

There were no comments from the Board.

- XV. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

There were no comments from the public.

- XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

On December 5, 2016 the Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:49 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I: Dr. Edward T. Dressler, Bernard F. Pettit and Kelly J. Spletzer
Region II: Dawn R. Heine, Todd R. Wolf and Colleen Zasowski
Region III: Mark P. Dehnert and Thomas J. DiBello
Presiding Officer: Joseph P. Ciresi
Superintendent: Dr. David R. Goodin
Chief Financial Officer: James D. Fink
Solicitor: Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.
Student Reps.: Daniel J. Ciresi and Taylor Stevens

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

The following members of the public spoke in support of the High School Expansion Project for the Music Areas and the Athletic Areas.

Clinton Fetterman, Limerick Township
Joe Domin, Upper Providence Township
Kimberly Florence, Upper Providence Township
Julie Kuerschner, Upper Providence Township
Diana Phifer, Limerick Township
Christina Melton, Limerick Township
Rebecca Landry, Spring City Borough
Sharon Oleski, Limerick Township
Joe Oleski, Student from Limerick Township
Karen Davis, Upper Providence Township
Deb Sanford, Upper Providence Township
Kathleen Major, Upper Providence Township
Michael Platchek, Limerick Township
Liz Brull, Limerick Township
Devi Spletzer, Student from Royersford Borough

Andreina Erwin, Linfield Area, stated that today she had a meeting with Representative Tom Quigley and she extended an invitation to him inviting him to attend the board meeting this evening. Mrs. Erwin stated that Mr. Quigley emphatically disagreed with being present at this school board meeting. Mrs. Erwin stated that she spoke with Mr. Quigley on several issues such as tax timing not only for Spring-Ford but for all of the districts in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Erwin reported that Mr. Quigley advised her that the state not having a budget in place until June 30th should not have much impact on school district budgets since the state normally contributes the same amount. Mrs. Erwin felt that Mr. Quigley should be the one present tonight to stand at the podium and state this to the School Board and the constituents. Mrs. Erwin next spoke about the standing of the United States with regards to the Program for International Students Assessment

(PISA). She advised that the United States performed below average. Mrs. Erwin added that this reflects the social and economic problems that we have in the country. Mrs. Erwin invited the community to get involved with finding solutions.

II. FINANCE

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mrs. Heine seconded it.

Mr. Fitzgerald commented that Items A-B are two more assessment appeals and are very positive resolutions for the Board as there will be net positive revenue coming out of these two resolutions. Mrs. Heine asked if these two positive outcomes were a result of the fact that we were able to go to battle with these folks to negotiate this change and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that he would prefer to speak to the specifics of each case separately possibly in an executive session. Mrs. Heine stated that the only reason she asked was due to the pending legislation and impacts that it could have based on these resolutions. Mr. Fitzgerald agreed that potentially that is correct. Mrs. Heine added that we had a better outcome than if we were prohibited from doing anything by having our hands tied by the pending legislation. Mr. Fitzgerald replied that in this scenario we likely would have had the ability to defend the valuation of the property owner who actually took the appeal initially. Mr. Fitzgerald reported that the problem would occur in situations where we believed a property was undervalued so we would be limited with what we can do.

The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board of School Directors authorized Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 200 Campus Drive in Upper Providence Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 61-00-01009-60-4 by setting the assessment of the property at \$8,976,000 for tax year 2011 (school tax year 2011-12), \$9,969,000 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$10,347,000 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14), \$10,479,300 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15), \$9,921,750 for tax year 2015 (school tax year 2015-16), \$9,978,900 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-17) and \$9,789,450 for tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-18) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the assessment of the property pursuant to applicable law.
- B. The Board of School Directors authorized Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 400 Campus Drive in Upper Providence Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 61-00-01009-61-3 by setting the assessment of the property at \$6,647,900 for tax year 2011 (school tax year 2011-12), \$7,412,950 for tax year 2012 (school tax year 2012-13), \$7,694,950 for tax year 2013 (school tax year 2013-14), \$7,793,650 for tax year 2014 (school tax year 2014-15), \$7,377,700 for tax year 2015 (school tax year 2015-16), \$7,286,050 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-17) and \$7,279,000 for tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-18) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the assessment of the property pursuant to applicable law.
- C. The Board approved the following independent contract:
 - 1. **Lakeside Educational Network – Upper Merion Vantage Academy.** Provide Educational services for a special needs student during the 2016-2017 school year as per the IEP. Services will be provided for 130 days at a rate of \$236.25 per day. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed \$30,712.50.

III. PROPERTY

Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve Item A and Mr. Pettit seconded it.

Mr. DiBello stated that before he votes on this motion he would like to again encourage the Board to seriously consider and think about planning a town hall meeting. Mr. DiBello stated that they have heard from a lot of residents but are not sure if anyone is opposed to the expansion. Mr. DiBello added that he keeps asking and the only time he has seen any opposition other than a letter that showed up this evening is in SoundOff. Mr. DiBello again encouraged the board to plan a town hall meeting to go through the specifics of the project and give residents the opportunity to understand this project. Mr. DiBello added that they may want to consider, as they go into the elections next year, having a referendum on the ballot for approval by the residents. Mr. DiBello stated that it is tough as they hear that there is all this opposition to the project but nobody ever shows up at a board meeting to express their opposition. Mr. DiBello stated that he would highly encourage anyone opposed to come to a board meeting and express this as it is tough to discern between what is fact and what is fabricated information.

Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Fitzgerald how a referendum would work and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that it would be up to the Board of Elections to determine the timeline for the referendum appearing on the ballot so it may be at the primary or may be at a date specific. He added that it would have to be done as a vote of the taxpayers of the voting community. Mr. Ciresi asked how the Board would move for referendum and what the process was. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that if the district were ever to move towards a referendum then a resolution would have to be passed by the Board authorizing the administration to oversee a referendum on a specific issue. He advised that a question would essentially be posed to the voters as to whether they would desire to have their taxes raised for the purposes of a specific question. Mr. DiBello cautioned Mr. Fitzgerald on what he was saying with regards to taxes being raised and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that he was explaining the generalities of how a referendum works. Mrs. Spletzer asked why else there would be consideration to take it to a referendum. Mr. DiBello commented that he was not sure that it was a true statement that the taxes would be raised and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that usually the question has to pose a specific question that may result in a higher millage for the community. He added that this is how every district generally poses the question and it would have to be consistent with how Act 1 requires the question to be asked. Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Fitzgerald to provide some examples of referendum questions so they could see how they would look in case the Board would choose to do this.

Mr. Dehnert agreed that this should go to referendum and felt that they should not vote on this contract until they decide this as they would be committing themselves to essentially over a half a million dollars by doing this. Mr. Dehnert spoke about the costs of the first phase being \$109,000.00 and that it essentially did not get you any-thing except for schematics and a cost estimate which will be the basis for the fee for Crabtree which will be 7% of that project estimate that the district and Crabtree would agree to. Mr. Dehnert did not feel that the markup on travel costs was wise and felt that possibly a more local architect would not charge the travel fee. He also did not feel that spending money for this phase of the project when they were unsure if they were going to even do the project was a good use of taxpayer money.

Mr. Ciresi asked Mr. Cooper to explain what the \$109,000 would get the district. Mr. Cooper replied that this schematic design would be a process where Crabtree would meet with every group, the administration and the Board to come up with exactly the

design and the size of the area that is needed. He added that at that time they will put drawings together which will define the costs. Mr. Cooper indicated that there would then be the option to decrease the size of the addition, increase the size, lower the cost or increase the cost. Mr. Cooper stated that at the end of the \$109,000 we will have exactly what this project will look like so that if you wanted to show it to the public you would have the correct information. Mr. Cooper added that at the end of each phase the Board must vote on whether to move onto the next step.

Mrs. Spletzer asked if at the end of this first phase the district would own the schematic drawings and Mr. Cooper replied yes.

Mr. Pettit stated that this step is essential in order to keep this moving forward and Mr. Cooper agreed. Mr. Pettit commented that this project is need for the kids and he wants to get it moving as he is tired of playing around.

Mr. Dehnert stated that a rough and dirty estimate from Crabtree was already done and he questioned whether this would substantially or significantly alter the Board's decision. Mr. Dehnert raised his objections to the contract and the 7% fee Crabtree will charge and also felt the public was being deceived on thinking the costs would be \$109,000 as he thought it would be higher. He felt that the contract was a bad one to enter into and thought that they should have competitively bid it. Mr. Cooper stated that he has been a part of 13 major projects during his tenure here in the district and has never done a competitive bid for an architect. Mr. Cooper stated that they prefer to find an architect that fits the project and not the other way around. Mr. Cooper said he had never known any school district to bid an architectural fee.

Mr. Ciresi commented that he is tired of hearing that we are lying to the public or making it look different and he felt the public needed to be aware of past history. He referenced the high school project when Mr. Dehnert was on the Board and the fact that after it went out to bid the Board ended up borrowing \$9 million more than what they needed. Mr. Ciresi stated that this cost the public money. He added that they are not lying here and nothing is being done behind closed doors. Mr. Ciresi stated that they have talked about this project for numerous years, they have asked the public to give their opinion and tonight they are talking about going to referendum on this project. Mr. Ciresi felt Mr. Dehnert was just looking for stall tactics. Mr. Ciresi stated that enough is enough either they are voting on this or they are not. He also added that he did not vote on that last project and does not want his name associated with us doing something illegal or under-handed.

Mr. Dehnert responded that we are talking about doing this project the same way as the previous one where the architect over-estimated the project costs. He added that we are talking about moving forward but want to continue a practice since that is the way we have always done it. Mr. Dehnert stated that he did not recall an RFP on an architect being done before. Mr. Dehnert commented that there are other local architects who would love to do this project. He added that Crabtree did a study and said we needed this when it is something that administration never identified as an issue. Mr. Dehnert state that this is a company that recommended doing something and then they get the fee for it based on their recommendation if the Board follows through.

Mr. Ciresi asked Dr. Goodin if this expansion project was needed and Dr. Goodin replied that we absolutely needed it. Dr. Goodin said he wanted to address the issue of going

out to bid to select an architect and stated that we are not just talking about a process that has never been done here but it is not done anywhere. Mr. Dehnert asked if that was a fact. Dr. Goodin questioned what exactly you would go out to bid on as the percentage of the architect fees are something that is negotiated between the owner and the architect. Dr. Goodin advised that what goes out to bid is the schematic design along with your bid documents. Contractors then bid on the project and that is where the competition comes in concerning the overall cost of the project. Dr. Goodin stated that with regards to the overall percentage that the architect gets, there is an industry standard for architect fees and we are certainly within that range with a reputable architect firm. Mr. Dehnert again asked if that was a fact that no Pennsylvania school district had ever gone out to bid for architect fees and Dr. Goodin stated none that he knew of. Mr. Dehnert commented that it was not a fact. Mr. Fitzgerald advised that having seen a number of school districts, although he cannot speak for all of them, he would say that 99 out of 100 would not bid a service like this. Mr. Dehnert said he wants to be the one who pays less.

Dr. Dressler asked Mr. Cooper if in all of his experience he thought that the charge of \$109,000 was inappropriate or overpriced and Mr. Cooper replied no. Mr. Cooper stated that you will see some lower fees when you are dealing with a building out on an open sight but here you are dealing with a school in operation and students in the building. He commented that they will have to work around major utilities which take extra design work which you would not have if it were new construction. Mr. Cooper spoke of the careful monitoring of the project and the material used that he and Mr. Ziegler provide during the project to ensure that the district has strong buildings with efficient walls and roofing.

Mr. DiBello stated that from his perspective they have talked about the project for several years and all he has ever seen are what-if scenarios. He stated that he is not sure how a Board can make an informed decision. Mr. DiBello stated that the proposal this evening is to get the true absolute schematic designs and have a pretty true idea of what the project is going to cost. Mr. DiBello added that he wants to make sure that all information gathered is real so that they can go to the community with real information. Mr. DiBello asked Mr. Fitzgerald if it was true they were giving approval to give Crabtree over ½ million dollars and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that the commitment is only for \$109,000 and nothing further without a Board vote. Mr. DiBello asked if the \$109,000 could change other than some incidentals and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that yes it could but this is a reasonable industry estimate but matter could change which could make the amount go up or down. Mr. DiBello asked if the district would own the schematic design and Mr. Fitzgerald said yes but there are limitations under a contract when they develop a schematic on how they can be used in a subsequent time period. Mr. DiBello confirmed that the only thing being approved tonight is to get the schematic design and not approving building the expansion. Mr. Fitzgerald confirmed this. Mr. DiBello advised that the Board could abort the project at any time.

Dr. Goodin stated that the motion was set up so that the Board must approve every step along the way and they at any time may halt the process. He also stated that the actual cost of the project will be based on the competitive bids that come back from those contractors that bid the project. Dr. Goodin stated that the Board at that time can decide if they want to accept the bids or not but the architect has still done the schematic design work. Mr. Fitzgerald pointed out the language in the agreement that indicated that approval for the each phase of the project must go before the Board for a vote.

Mrs. Zasowski asked if once the plans were finalized whether the Board, if they were to decide to move in this direction, could opt to go with a different architect and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that he would have reservations about how we could use those designs and go with another architect as there are limitations. Mr. Fitzgerald indicated that this question would be better served by asking Ellen Enters from his office as she negotiated this contract. Mr. Fitzgerald cautioned that he would not enter into this contract tonight with the anticipation that you would be using the designs developed by this architect to go with another architect. Mrs. Zasowski asked Mr. Cooper about his statement that the costs could go up slightly due different fees and the contractor working around the student population and she asked if it wasn't also possible that it could be slightly less if we stayed with this architect who just did this very detailed feasibility study and has already gotten to know our people and facilities. Mr. Cooper replied yes and many times we see architecture rates at 8, 9 and 10%. He stated that he believes that this is why our architect fees are lower and at 7%.

Mr. DiBello stated that he would assume that the schematic designs and the numbers would come back separately for the arts expansion and the athletic expansion. Mr. Cooper confirmed this was correct. Mr. Cooper added that there would also likely be other alternates included that the Board and the public could view, pick from and decide on.

Dr. Dressler asked if this were to go to referendum how much additional time would this add to the project and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that this was a very unknown question as there are many factors but the project could be slowed down by a minimum of 6 months probably more. Mr. Fitzgerald added that going to referendum is not an overnight decision as many districts take months if not years to decide if this is a process they want to enter into.

Mr. Dehnert commented that the 7% of the cost of the project will be based on the first phase and he questioned what would happen if the district and Crabtree could not agree on a cost. He also asked what Crabtree's fee would be if that were to be the case as he could not figure that out from the contract.

Mr. DiBello questioned if the district were to decide to not move forward if there were additional fees that we would be committed to and Mr. Fitzgerald stated that there would be fees associated with the phase. Mr. DiBello asked if the district were to do Phase I and then stop then what would the cost be and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that the cost would be those costs associated with that Phase but there are no commitments beyond the phase.

Mr. Dehnert asked about section 11.1 in the contract where it talks about the 7% fee and stated that the base fee for Crabtree is based on the cost of the project that comes as a result of the first phase. Mr. Dehnert asked what the cost would be if the district were not able to agree on a cost of the project with Crabtree as there is nothing to base the 7% on. Mr. Fitzgerald replied that he would have to look into this as the 7% is based off of that initial number. Mr. Dehnert also stated that the district is paying high rates for additional services and the contract indicates that we would pay for any consultants at the same rates regardless of what the consultants charged so if the consultants charged less then Crabtree could potentially get a profit based on the consultants used. Mr. Ciresi replied that Crabtree cannot bring a consultant in without our approval and Mr. Fitzgerald added that the district will be overseeing the engagement of consultants. Mr. Dehnert stated that there is language in the contract regarding consultants. Mr. Ciresi questioned

whether this contract was any different than any other contract the Board has ever agreed to for construction with regards to this being standard language. Mr. Fitzgerald reported that the language is standard AIA contract language and although there are deviations from it there is nothing that major. Mr. Cooper reported that this agreement is actually stricter than ones we have done in the past. Mr. Ciresi questioned if we had done beyond due diligence with this contract and Mr. Cooper confirmed this was correct.

The motion passed 8-1 with Mr. Dehnert voting no.

- A. The Board approved entering into an Agreement between Owner and Architect with Crabtree Rohrbaugh & Associates, Architects for the Spring-Ford Area High School Additions, Performing Arts and Fitness Centers as presented at the September Board meeting subject to approval of final wording of the agreement by the District Administration. Furthermore, approval is sought for the Architect to perform the Schematic Design Phase of the project for a fee of \$109,032.00 for basic services, plus reimbursable expenses and fees for additional services, if applicable. Per the terms of the Agreement, future Board approval is required prior to moving on to each subsequent design phase.

IV. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

Mrs. Heine made a motion to approve Item A and Mrs. Spletzer seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

- A. The Board approved entering into a 5 year agreement with Final Site for use of the Learning Management System (LMS) service. Payment of this service will not begin until the 2017-2018 School Year. Funding will come out of the Technology Budget and shall not exceed \$20,000.00 a year.

V. CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mrs. Spletzer seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

The following individuals were approved for attendance at the following:

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

- A. **Catherine Gardy**, Literacy Supervisor, and **Wendy Taylor**, K-6 Literacy Coach, to attend "Fountas and Pinnell's – The Continuum of Literacy Learning K-8" at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on January 24, 2017. The total cost for this conference is \$500.00 (registration). No substitutes are needed.
- B. **Gregory Detwiler**, Grounds Maintenance, and **Edward Koneski**, Lead Grounds Maintenance, to attend "2017 Eastern PA Turf Conference" in Valley Forge, PA on January 4, 2017 and January 5, 2017. The total cost for this conference is \$320.00 (registration). No substitutes are needed.

VI. BOARD COMMENT

Mr. DiBello asked Mrs. Erwin about her invitation to Mr. Quigley and what his response was and Mrs. Erwin replied that he did not want to be here. Mrs. Spletzer asked why not and Mrs. Erwin indicated that Mr. Quigley said he was not invited. Mrs. Erwin reported that she advised him that he did not need an invitation. Mr. DiBello stated that The

Mercury is here tonight and he would like to put it out that if they run any articles in the future that they please put that on behalf of the Spring-Ford School Board Representative Tom Quigley is invited to any meeting he wants to come to any time in the future and he doesn't need a special phone call for him to show up at this meeting. Mr. Ciresi added that the invite goes to all of our representatives. Mr. DiBello stated that he has sat on the Board for 7 years and he has yet to see a representative show up at this meeting other than Senator Andy Dinniman who does not even represent us anymore. Mr. DiBello said it is appalling when he hears that they don't want to show up at this meeting as they represent this community and they should be here. Mr. DiBello stated that they do not need a special invite but he would guarantee that if it was a photo-op that they would be the first ones in the parking lot. Dr. Dressler asked that his representative Warren Kampf also be extended the invite.

VII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Clinton Fetterman, Limerick Township, asked when we would see the delivery on the schematics and Mr. Cooper advised that now that this is approved he will contact Crabtree who will set up meetings with the organizations both in athletics and performing arts to determine the needs. Mr. Cooper stated that he will start on this right away but with the holiday coming up it could be delayed a little. Mr. Fetterman asked what Mr. Cooper's gut feeling was on the timeline and Mr. Cooper indicated April or May.

John Carre, Upper Providence Township, stated that he wished to raise opposition to the fitness center and performing arts project. Mr. Carre expressed concern as a retired senior on a fixed income. Mr. Carre advised that last week he went to the Montgomery County Public Comment Session because they are raising real estate taxes by over 11% which is the second year in a row they are raising real estate taxes. He added that Upper Providence Township is going to incorporate a real estate millage tax for the first time probably next year and school taxes are generally going up every year. He asked what the advice was of the various taxing authorities for those people on fixed incomes. Mr. Carre stated that everyone wants the best and the brightest but he is afraid of what will happen to those on fixed incomes. Mr. Carre stated that he will probably have to move at some point because he cannot afford the taxes. Mr. Carre added that he felt that always going to the well for taxes especially for a fitness center that he believed would support the sports activities is something that should be funded and supported by real estate taxes. Mr. DiBello advised that taxpayers should go to their state legislators to address property tax reform and the millions of millions of dollars in unfunded mandates that are pushed down to the school districts. Mr. DiBello stated that we are not talking about providing the best but rather providing the essentials. Mr. Carre questioned whether Mr. DiBello was saying that a fitness center was essential to the school and Mr. DiBello replied that there are 2200 students between the 9th Grade Center and the 10-12 Grade Center that the current facilities cannot accommodate properly. Mr. Carre asked for clarification if they were talking about more gymnasium space and so forth and Mr. Ciresi replied that it is a gymnasium that is being built. Mr. Carre asked if it was not a fitness center and Mr. Ciresi stated that it was not a fitness center as it was another gym for PE and not just a workout room. Mr. Carre said his understanding was that it was a fitness center as that is how it is being promoted and talked about. Mr. Ciresi commented that it is a fitness center but it is for the 2200 kids that are in the schools and it is not just for the sports teams. Mr. Carre said that when you say fitness center you think of places like LA Fitness and so forth. Mr. Ciresi stated that it is not that. Mr. Dehnert stated that it is weight lifting equipment and aerobic equipment not a gymnasium. Mr. Carre said that there needs to be clarification as to exactly what these facilities are going to be as they don't sound like they are necessary.

Mr. Ciresi stated that this is why they want to move to the schematics so that they can show what this is rather than have hearsay that has gone back and forth over the years. Mrs. Spletzer reported that they have had public meetings where they went through the first phase of what Crabtree did and they showed an idea of what it would look like. Mr. DiBello added that this was the purpose for him suggesting a town hall meeting as there is a lot of fabricated information out there. He added that the whole purpose of what they are talking about this evening is to get actual drawings that could be projected onto a screen so they can properly communicate to the public what they are talking about doing and the reasons why. Mr. Carre stated that what they are saying comes across as a fitness center but if they are talking about a gymnasium then put it across that way and show it as something basic to what is needed. Mr. DiBello commented that it was to expand the current facilities that are used for part of physical education as well as what the sports teams use as extracurricular so it is a combination of everything. Mrs. Spletzer clarified that it is what is needed as there have been studies and evaluations done and we have gym classes which are mandatory for graduation that have to be on top of each other or all in the same room since we do not have enough space. Mrs. Spletzer stated that it is not just a weight lifting center or a fitness center as it will be a comprehensive space like a gymnasium. Mrs. Spletzer advised that they did show the whole schematics which are probably out on the district's webpage so that he can get an idea of what they were looking at. Mr. Carre stated that he understood but felt that it needed to be clarified as to what this project is to which Mrs. Spletzer replied that his point was well taken. She added that she wanted to clarify the Board Members are all district residents and although she is not retired she is raising 4 children in the district and it can be tough getting 2 nickels to rub together and she for one is not about going to the well and raising taxes. Mrs. Spletzer stated that she serves on the Finance Committee and it is very important that they are fiscally responsible. Mrs. Spletzer commented that this project is something that has been pushed off over the years and now there is a real need to go forward with this. Mr. Carre stated that he will need to look at more details regarding this because he is not too sure that we are clear as a society what is truly needed versus what is wanted versus what is desired nowadays. Mr. DiBello replied that this is exactly why they are doing what they are doing so they can go to the community and tell them specifics rather than them talk about it at a high level because that is where all this fabrication comes from. Mr. Carre referenced the suggestion of meeting with or talking to their state representatives and said you are probably better off just banging your head against the wall because if you look over the years on what they have done to handle the pension issue and property taxes which is nothing. Mr. Carre expressed doubt that anything would be done by Harrisburg. Mr. Ciresi reminded Mr. Carre that every two years voters have a right to change things. Mr. Dehnert stated that it is not a gymnasium as it is a fitness center that will have weight lifting equipment and aerobic equipment.

Armond Newton, Limerick Township, stated that he is like the gentleman before him in that he is retired. Mr. Newton commented that he came here one time just to find out what we are going to spend money on. Mr. Newton said he still does not know as he heard \$100,000 to \$9 million. Mr. Newton stated that he needs more facts and he is not against it as he thinks the young people in the community do a great job and he is very proud of them but on the other hand it is real money. Mr. Newton added that Teleflex is moving, Altria is moving and our tax base could go down so we have to look at it all. He commented that we can't do everything.

Becky Landry, Spring City, commented that she is a single mom and is not exactly rolling in the money. She stated that she understands there may be a price increase

and it may be hurtful to some people and she is one of those people. Ms. Landry said that these programs are important and she wants room for her kids. She stated that she has a child who is going to be in the Athletic Department and she has a child in the Music Department and she would like them to have the space and the room that they need. Ms. Landry added that these are important programs and there is a reason why colleges ask the kids what extra activities they do. Ms. Landry commented that it is important as these activities make good people.

Andreina Erwin, commented that about 3 weeks ago she spoke to the Board about the 11% county property tax and this is why she told Mr. Quigley that he had to be here to talk to everyone and explain. Mrs. Erwin referenced a Mercury article that she indicated went back and forth between Mr. Quigley, Governor Wolf and Mr. Ciresi saying that Mr. Ciresi wanted Mr. Quigley to come out to a meeting because he was running for office. Mrs. Erwin stated that this is exactly what we have to avoid as we are here going in circles. Mrs. Erwin commented that she totally understands those residents who are retired and are on a fixed income. She added that in the long term if you look at the Labor Statistics the most new jobs here in the United States are personal care aides and their median salary pay is \$20,980. She asked that they look at the long term and when our kids are retiring no one will be able to live anywhere. Mrs. Erwin stated that we have registered nurses at \$67,000 which is great but then we have home health aides with a median pay per year at \$21,920. Mrs. Erwin stated that this is on the Labor webpage and Mr. Dehnert can go and see it and see what the progress is for the long term. Mrs. Erwin added that this is what happens when we do not have the correct education to teach our kids and we can't put the tools together and when we have people who are just not up for progress.

Mr. Ciresi asked the administration that as we move forward that we make sure we get the right message out there. Mr. Ciresi mentioned the wording in the Board agenda motion which referred to the project as a fitness center and stated that it should not be called a fitness center as it is an expansion of the physical education offerings in the building. He encouraged that the district put out all of the facts for the public so that when people put out false facts it is negated and we understand this. Mr. Ciresi stated that none of the nine of them are here to spend other's people money or their own if they don't have to. He added that while they may not agree on everything they do agree on that. Mr. Ciresi commented that they are the Board of Education and it is an obligation of theirs to make sure the children have an education. Mr. Ciresi asked that they do not forget that Spring-Ford is one of the top school districts in the area and he understands those that spoke about being retired and understands what they are saying about taxes as he agrees with them on this. Mr. Ciresi added that Spring-Ford does miss the boat in with our state funding as we are one of the lowest in the state for funding and we need to fight our state to get more funding. Mr. Ciresi stated that for what we are looking to do this is the first step towards the process in order to be able to come back to the public with what the project looks like and what it costs. He added that this will be a long process and it is nothing that has not been done in the past. He asked that Dr. Goodin and Ms. Crew as they make an effort to get the information out to the public that they make sure they have all of their i's dotted and t's crossed and that there are no questions. Mr. Ciresi urged the public who may have questions to please ask the administration as this is all on the up and up, nothing is being hidden and all of the meetings will be public.

Mr. DiBello commented that they must cognizant of the fact that the county is raising taxes 11% and Upper Providence Township is proposing a tax which we have no control over. Mr. DiBello advised that last year the district raised taxed by 7/10 of 1% and 95%

of that was to cover the mandates put forth by the state for pension reform. Mr. DiBello reminded everyone that the district did get rid of the per capita tax and while Upper Providence maintains a per capita tax that is beyond our control but our portion is gone. Mr. DiBello added that the district has done very well with our spending and within the next 5-6 years we have a huge drop off that is coming with our annual debt service. Mr. DiBello reported that the district use to be about \$285 million in debt and we have paid that down by over \$170 million so we have become extremely efficient in running this district. Mr. DiBello added that we are the third largest district in Montgomery County and we are the sixth lowest millage in the county. Mr. DiBello stated that we must be cognizant of the fact that the district is growing and the student population has needs, not wants but needs. Mr. DiBello indicated that he would not approve a want. He expressed that he was disappointed that they have seen a lot of people here from the performing arts in support of this expansion but he has seen nothing from the athletic side tonight. Mr. DiBello stated that he would hope that they would see in the future that if someone is not in favor of this project that they come to a board meeting and speak as writing anonymously into SoundOff means nothing as it could be and he believes most of it is the same person. Mr. DiBello again stated that if you are truly opposed to the project then you need to come to a board meeting and speak their position.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Spletzer made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Heine seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

**2016-2017 EXTRACURRICULAR CONTRACTS
JANUARY 2017**

Contract Title	Season	Last Name	First Name	Contract Rate
Asst. Wrestling Coach (7/8/9th Grade)	Winter	Anspach	Jason R.	\$4,234.00
Athletic Event Supervisor-Winter - MS	Winter	Brobst	Bruce D.	\$1,181.00
Asst. Baseball Coach - HS	Spring	Deluzio	Charles	\$3,991.00
Asst. Wrestling Coach (7/8/9th Grade)	Winter	Fisher	Zach	\$2,540.40(60% - Yr. 1)
Volunteer Assistant Basketball Coach-Boys - HS	Winter	Hoff	Daniel J.	Volunteer
Scoreboard Operator (as needed)	as needed	Leyland	Timothy	\$50/game
Asst. Wrestling Coach - HS	Winter	Morreale	Giancarlo	\$5,189.00
Asst. Basketball Coach-Boys - HS	Winter	Pufko	George T.	\$4,790.00
Volunteer Boys Basketball Coach - HS	Winter	Reber	Randy	Volunteer
Athletic Event Supervisor-Spring - MS	Spring	Rinehimer	Jeffrey W.	\$1,181.00
Ski Board Club - HS	Winter	Scott	Melissa	\$678.00
Asst. Baseball Coach - HS	Spring	Souder	Ryan N.	\$3,991.00
Volunteer Asst. Wrestling Coach -HS	Winter	Zimmie	Brendan	Volunteer



SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

857 SOUTH LEWIS ROAD, ROYERSFORD, PA 19468

RESOLUTION 2017 – 01

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. David R. Goodin
Superintendent

Dr. Allyn J. Roche
Assistant Superintendent

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joseph P. Ciresi
Board President

Thomas J. DiBello
Board Vice President

Mark P. Dehnert
Region III

Dr. Edward T. Dressler, Jr.
Region I

Dawn R. Heine
Region II

Bernard F. Pettit
Region I

Kelly J. Spletzer
Region I

Todd R. Wolf
Region II

Colleen Zasowski
Region II

WHEREAS, the Tax Collectors of Limerick Township and Upper Providence Township, Royersford Borough and Spring City Borough all collect taxes for the Spring-Ford Area School District, and

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors wish to revise their compensation beginning with the next tax collectors term beginning in 2018-19 school year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The base rate shall be paid in accordance with the following schedule:

Limerick Township	\$2,000.00
Upper Providence Township	\$2,000.00
Royersford Borough	\$2,000.00
Spring City Borough	\$2,000.00
2. In addition to the base rate, Tax Collectors will be compensated at a rate of \$2.00 for each Real Estate Tax bill.
3. The Tax Collectors will be compensated at a rate of \$2.50 for each interim bill.
4. Where a taxpayer that is permitted to pay a particular tax in installments and chooses to do so, the Tax Collectors will be compensated at the rate of \$1.00 for the 2nd & 3rd installment.
5. Payments to the Tax Collectors shall be paid equally over 26 pay periods based on the number of real estate tax bills generated from the tax duplicate at the beginning of each tax-year. Payments for the generation of interim tax bills and the receipt of installment payments shall be made monthly in arrears as incurred.
6. The Tax Collectors shall have their compensation reduced as a result of not remitting funds on a timely basis and in accordance with District Policy and in accordance with Spring-Ford Area School District Resolution #2013-05 (attached) for tax monies that have been collected but not remitted. The deduction shall be interest-calculated on the base of 6% per annum for each day of the total amount of funds not remitted in accordance with said regulations.
7. The School District reserves the right to conduct an independent audit on a random basis of Tax Collector's records to insure strict adherence to the District's policies and to the current tax collection laws as last amended.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this 23rd day of January, 2017

By: _____
Joseph P. Ciresi
Board President

By: _____
Diane M. Fern
Board Secretary

Spring-Ford Area School District

857 South Lewis Road, Royersford, PA 19468-2711

Phone 610-705-6000

FAX 610-705-6245

RESOLUTION 2013 – 05

WHEREAS, the Tax Collectors of Limerick Township and Upper Providence Township, Royersford Borough and Spring City Borough all collect taxes for the Spring-Ford Area School District, and

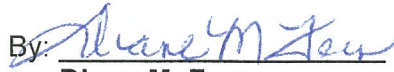
WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors wish to revise their compensation beginning with the next tax collectors term beginning in 2014-15 school year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The base rate shall be paid in accordance with the following schedule:

Limerick Township	\$9,000
Upper Providence Township	\$9,000
Royersford Borough	\$9,000
Spring City Borough	\$9,000

2. In addition to the base rate, the tax Collectors will be compensated at a rate of \$.80 for each Real Estate Tax bill.
3. The above referenced base rate shall include the cost of per capita collection of up to 5,000 bills. For any additional bills beyond 5,000, the base rate will be supplemented with a \$1.00 per capita bill.
4. The Tax Collectors will be compensated at a rate of \$2.50 for each interim bill.
5. Where a taxpayer that is permitted to pay a particular tax in installments and chooses to do so, the Tax Collectors will be compensated at the rate of \$1.00 for the 2nd & 3rd installment.
6. The Tax Collectors shall have their compensation reduced as a result of not remitting funds on a timely basis and in accordance with District Policy and in accordance with Spring-Ford Area School District Resolution #97-1(attached) for tax monies that have been collected but not remitted. The deduction shall be interest-calculated on the base of 6% per annum for each day of the total amount of funds not remitted in accordance with said regulations.
7. In addition to the reduction set forth in Paragraph 5 above, the base compensation, which shall be payable by 26 pay dates, shall be withheld if the Tax Collector has not acted in accordance with District Policy or this Resolution.
8. The School District reserves the right to conduct an independent audit on a random basis of Tax Collector's records to insure strict adherence to the District's policies and to the current tax collection laws as last amended.

By:  2/13/13
Diane M. Fern Date
Board Secretary

By:  2/13/13
Thomas J. DiBello Date
Board President

Limerick • Royersford • Spring City • Upper Providence
Internet: spring-ford.net

SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

ADOPTED: March 25, 1991

REVISED: April 24, 2006

REVIEWED: November 14, 2016

	117. HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION
1. Purpose SC 1329 Title 22 Sec. 11.25	<p>The Board shall provide, pursuant to rules of the State Board of Education, individual instruction to students confined to home or hospital for temporary physical disability, illness or injury; or when such confinement is recommended for psychiatric reasons. The period of homebound instruction for an individual shall not exceed three (3) months.</p>
2. Delegation of Responsibility Title 22 Sec. 11.25	<p>Applications for individual instruction shall certify the nature of the illness or disability and state the probable duration of the confinement; and must be approved by the Superintendent or a designee. Applications must include a letter from the parent/guardian and a statement from the primary care physician.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee may request approval from the Department of Education to extend the period of homebound instruction for an individual, which shall be reevaluated every three (3) months.</p>
3. Guidelines	<p>The Board will provide individual instruction only for those confinements expected to last at least two (2) weeks but such exceptions may be made as the Superintendent or designee deems advisable and so recommends. Each child should have up to five (5) hours of instruction per week. Exceptions may be authorized by the Superintendent or designee but any allotment of hours above five (5) must be pre-approved.</p> <p>The program of individual instruction given each student shall be in accordance with the standards established by the Secretary of Education.</p> <p>The Board reserves the right to withhold individual instruction when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The instructor's presence in the place of a student's confinement presents a hazard to the health of the teacher. 2. A parent/guardian or other adult in authority is not at home with the student during the hours of instruction. 3. Parents/Guardians fail to establish suitable conditions under which such

	<p>instruction can occur.</p> <p>In some situations, students may require immediate homebound instruction due to an emergency situation and/or a placement in a hospital, partial-hospitalization program, rehabilitation facility or detention center. If the placement facility and/or hospital, detention center or program offers and provides educational instruction, the District will initially approve two (2) weeks of educational instruction with a maximum of five (5) hours per week at the current District homebound rate for professional staff (based upon the current professional agreement). If a specific student situation requires additional educational instruction beyond the five (5) hours per week for two (2) weeks or the cost is above the current District homebound rate for professional staff, pre-approval is required by the Superintendent or designee. If additional hours are requested or the rate per hour needs to be negotiated, this policy provides the Superintendent or designee the authority to make such decisions. The pre-approval must include the rationale for the additional hours of educational instruction, total number of hours per week requested, the approximate ratio of teacher to students during the instruction and the requested hourly rate for instruction if the rate exceeds the current District homebound rate for professional staff.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1329</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 11.25</p>
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SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: ADMISSION OF
BEGINNERS/EARLY
ENTRANCE

SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADOPTED: March 25, 1991

REVISED: March 23, 1998

REVIEWED: November 14, 2016

<p>1.Guidelines SC 1301 Title 22 Sec. 11.14</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 11.16</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">201.1 ADMISSION OF BEGINNERS/EARLY ENTRANCE</p> <p>Chronological age is the best single indicator of maturity. Any child who desires to seek admission to the kindergarten classes of the Spring-Ford Area School District shall have attained the age of five (5) years by August 31 if they are to be admitted in the Fall. A child who has successfully completed kindergarten in a school system which has a lower entrance age requirement may be entered into first grade without regard for chronological age.</p> <p>Exceptions to these regulations shall be considered by the Superintendent for those students who have attained the age of five (5) years for kindergarten on or before September 15th and for those students who have attained the age of six (6) years for first grade on or before September 15th of the year they are requesting enrollment. Early entrance for either kindergarten or first grade will be considered if application for early entrance is submitted in writing to the Superintendent of Schools between April 1st and June 1st of the year the child is to be considered for entrance. Requests for children who become residents between June 2nd and August 31st of the year the child is to be considered for entrance must be submitted at the time of inquiry or registration up until August 31st.</p> <p>Early entrance will be recommended:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If the child exhibits a mental age of six (6) years (kindergarten) or seven (7) years (first grade), or 2. An individual test of intelligence administered by the District Psychologist and a visual-motor integration age of five (5) years and ten (10) months or higher, and 3. Subjective or objective evaluation techniques indicate the child possesses the emotional stability and social maturity to substantially benefit from immediate school placement, or 4. The child has been diagnosed as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. blind,
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201.1 ADMISSION OF BEGINNERS/EARLY ENTRANCE - Pg. 2

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">b. deaf,c. autistic,d. severely socially and emotionally disturbed, ore. multi-handicapped, and <p>the district psychologist and the members of the multi-disciplinary evaluation team recommend educational services to reduce the length of time the child is assigned to a special program or placement other than District or Intermediate Unit operated special education classes.</p>
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SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: HAZING

ADOPTED: November 27, 2000

REVISED:

REVIEWED: November 14, 2016

	247. HAZING
1. Purpose	The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the district and are prohibited at all times.
2. Definitions	For purposes of this policy, hazing is defined as any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a person or which willfully destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with, or as a condition of continued membership in , any organization.
24 P.S. 5352	<p>The term shall include, but not limited to:</p> <p>Any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping; beating; branding;</p> <p>Forced calisthenics;</p> <p>Exposure to the elements;</p> <p>Forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance;</p> <p>Any other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health and safety of the individual,</p> <p>and shall include any activity that would subject the individual to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which is intended to or could result in humiliation, extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual; or</p> <p>Any willful destruction or removal of public or private property.</p>
24 P.S. 5352	For purposes of this policy, any activity, as described above, upon which the initiation or admission into or affiliation with or continued membership in an

<p>3. Authority 24 P. S. 511 24 P. S. 5354 Pol. 122,123</p> <p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>5. Guidelines 24 P. S. 5354</p> <p>24 P. S. 511 2 P. S. 5354</p>	<p>organization is directly or indirectly conditioned shall be presumed to be “forced” activity, the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity notwithstanding.</p> <p>For purpose of this policy, student activity or organization is defined as any organization, team, club, society, or group operating under the sanction of or recognized as an organization by the district.</p> <p>The Board prohibits hazing in connection with any student activity or organization regardless of whether the conduct occurs on or off school property or outside of school hours.</p> <p>No student, parent/guardian, coach, sponsor, volunteer or district employee shall engage in, condone or ignore any form of hazing.</p> <p>The Board encourages students who have been subjected to hazing to promptly report such incidents to the building principal.</p> <p>Students, parent/guardians, coaches, sponsors, volunteers, and district employees shall be alert to incidents of hazing and shall report such conduct to the building principal as soon as they are made aware of any possible incidences.</p> <p>Building administrators shall investigate promptly all complaints of hazing and administer appropriate discipline to any individual or student activity or organization found to be in violation of this policy. Building administrators shall immediately inform district administration of any and all reports of hazing including the outcome of all investigations.</p> <p>In addition to posting this policy on the district’s website, the district shall annually inform students, parents/guardians, sponsors, volunteers and district employees that hazing is prohibited, by means of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. publication in student handbooks 2. verbal instructions by the coach or sponsor at the start of the season or program 3. posting of notice/signs. <p>This policy, along with other applicable district policies, procedures and Codes of Conduct, shall be provided to all school athletic coaches and all sponsors and volunteers affiliated with a student activity or organization annually, prior to coaching an athletic activity or serving as a responsible adult supervising, advising, assisting or otherwise participating in a student activity or</p>
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<p>24 P. S. 511 24 P. S. 5354 Pol. 218 Pol. 233</p> <p>Policy 317 Policy 417 Policy 517</p> <p>24 P.S. 5354</p>	<p>organization.</p> <p><u>Complaint Procedure</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When a student believes that s/he has been subject to hazing, the student shall promptly report the incident, orally or in writing, to the building principal. 2. The principal shall conduct a timely, impartial, thorough, and comprehensive investigation of the alleged hazing. 3. The principal shall prepare a written report summarizing the investigation and recommending disposition of the complaint. 4. The district shall document the corrective action taken. <p><u>Consequences for Violations</u></p> <p>If the investigation results in a substantiated finding of hazing, the principal shall recommend appropriate disciplinary action up to and including expulsion, as circumstances warrant, in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct. Additionally, the student may be subject to disciplinary action by the coach or sponsor, up to and including removal from the activity.</p> <p>Building principals shall take such disciplinary action for violations of this policy as is appropriate and within their authority, as set forth in policy and the Code of Student Conduct.</p> <p>If the investigation results in a substantiated finding that a coach, sponsor, or volunteer affiliated with the student activity or organization engaged in, condoned or ignored any violation of this policy, s/he shall be disciplined in accordance with Board policy and applicable laws and regulations. Discipline could include, but is not limited to, dismissal from the position as coach, sponsor, or volunteer, and/or dismissal from district employment.</p> <p>If a student activity or organization authorizes hazing in blatant disregard of this policy or other applicable district rules, penalties may also include rescission of permission for that organization to operate on school property or to otherwise operate under the sanction or recognition of the district.</p> <p>Any person who causes or participates in hazing may also be subject to criminal prosecution.</p>
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	<p><u>Related Policies</u></p> <p>122 – Co-Curricular Activities 123 – Interscholastic Activities 218 – Student Discipline 218.1 – Weapons 218.2 – Terroristic Threats 222 - Tobacco Use 227 – Drug Abuse 233 – Suspension and Expulsion 248 – Sexual Harassment 317 - Disciplinary Procedure 417 - Disciplinary Procedure 517 - Disciplinary Procedure</p>
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