On February 26, 2018 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, Linda C. Fazzini and Bernard F. Pettit
Region II:	Dawn R. Heine, Clinton L. Jackson and Colleen Zasowski
Region III:	Mark P. Dehnert and Christina F. Melton
Presiding Officer:	Thomas J. DiBello
Superintendent:	Dr. David R. Goodin
Chief Financial Officer:	James D. Fink
Solicitor:	Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.
Student Reps.:	Taylor Stevens and Nandini M. Patel

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Nandini announced that the Spring-Ford Area School District, in collaboration with the Montgomery County Department of Mental Health, is hosting a suicide prevention method entitled: Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR). She invited everyone to attend the meeting on Monday, March 5, 2018 and advised that each attendee will receive a QPR Resource Guide as well as a QPR Gatekeeper Certificate. Nandini added that space is limited and pre-registration is required via the district's website.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Eric Hetrick, Upper Providence, stated that he wished to speak on the motion under Property, Letter G. Mr. Hetrick spoke of being proud of the district for their proactive approach to things. He stated that he loves living here and teaching here. Mr. DiBello asked Mr. Hetrick if he had a question and asked him to move onto his question on the agenda item as there was a short period of time. Mr. Hetrick replied that he had a statement and not a question. Mr. DiBello advised that statements would have to wait until the end of the meeting. Mr. Hetrick replied that he would wait.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Alex Cifelli thanked the Board for the opportunity to showcase the show tonight and for their support of the Theater Program. He commented that the cast for this year's show is the largest cast for a Spring-Ford show to date. He added that there were 90 students in the show. Mr. Cifelli provided background on the story told in the show. The cast performed a number from the show entitled "Coffee Break". Mr. Cifelli invited everyone to come out to see the show on Friday, March 9th and Saturday, March 10th.

A. **Alexander Cifelli,** Teacher and Spring Musical Director, to provide a glimpse of the Spring-Ford Area High School's Spring Musical *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying.*

Dr. Colyer introduced John Kelly and Yash Shah and stated that Nicholas Moore was unable to be present as he was on a college visit. Dr. Colyer spoke of the rigorous process students must go through to be considered for the National Merit Scholarship

Program. He express how proud Spring-Ford was of these students. Mr. DiBello and Dr. Goodin presented the students with certificates from the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program in recognition of being named as finalists.

B. **Dr. Robert Colyer,** 12th Grade House Principal, to recognize **John T. Kelly, Nicholas D. Moore** and **Yash B. Shah** on being named as "Finalists" in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Mrs. Bast presented a PowerPoint entitled "Spring-Ford is Future Ready". She provided background information on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Mrs. Bast reported that in order to comply with ESSA the Pennsylvania Department of Education had to submit a plan for the state to the U.S. Department of Education. In response to ESSA's requirement to create a more holistic school evaluation tool, PDE has proposed the Future Ready PA Index. Mrs. Bast provided information on the components of the Future Ready PA Index as well as samples of how it will look. She explained how Pennsylvania will comply with ESSA. Mrs. Bast spoke of how Spring-Ford is ready to meet the challenge of ESSA and reviewed the changes and the action steps the district is making in order to increase student achievement.

Dr. Goodin asked about the analysis portion of the new test and how it would be weighted and how much of a curriculum change it presented for the district. Mrs. Bast replied that TDA's were not new and they have been worked on but the weight of them is tremendously different with the new PSSA. She advised that it is about 25% of the ELA test whereas before it was about 16%.

Mr. DiBello thanked Mrs. Bast for the information and for talking about the hard work that is underway. Mr. DiBello stated that once again results will be changing so it will be hard for us to compare apples to apples with things changing every couple of years.

Mr. Dehnert stated that there is a lot of career and counseling prepping for students going to college and he wondered what we do for students who pursue a trade rather than college. Mrs. Bast stated that the strand is actually College and Career Readiness and there is much more focus now on students who may want to go into a two year program, a trade program or go directly into work. She added that counseling begins as early 3rd grade as they want activities from grades 3-5 and then 6-8 as well as 9-12. Mr. Dehnert asked if are successful in guiding kids towards the other careers and Mrs. Bast responded yes, she believes we do a nice job of this and she spoke briefly about Act 339 which deals with academic standards for career education.

Mrs. Heine commented that with Act 339 there is a tie in for the Western Center. Mrs. Heine added that as we continue to see the increase in the number of students we have attending the Western Center and their success we must continue to look at jobs that are necessary and are high range jobs.

Mr. Dehnert stated the most popular plans at the Western Center are protective services and cosmetology which are not high paying jobs and not where the demand is in the marketplace. He spoke about trying to refocus these students to things that have better job prospects.

Mrs. Heine said she respects Mr. Dehnert's point but it also has to do with being happy and successful with what you are doing.

Mr. DiBello said they have strived to increase enrollment at the Western Center and there are a lot of students that after going through 4 years of high school do not want to continue onto college. He stated that the reports that come out indicate that there are many jobs and shortages in a lot of fields. He commented that we must inform students that there is a college path, a military path and trade schools. Mr. DiBello added that many students are successful if they go onto trade schools.

C. Presentation by **Kimberly Bast,** Director of Curriculum and Instruction, entitled "Spring-Ford is Future Ready".

III. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Rep. Report
Taylor advised that 32 students from the Model UN went to Washington for a three-day Winter Congress Conference in which they wrote mock legislation and debated. She reported that tomorrow she, Nandini and a few other school leaders will be attending the Josten's Renaissance Tour in Harrisburg. She commented that they will listen to renowned speaker Mike Smith and Renaissance Educator, Dr. Phillip Campbell. Taylor reported that they will learn ways to make positive changes in their school environment with some action planning as well. She expressed hope that this will be a great learning experience for all of them. Taylor advised that they will report next month on what they learned on this tour.

WMCTC Dressler, Heine, Zasowski 1st Mon. 7:00 p.m.
Dr. Dressler reported that Joint Operating Committee met on February 5th and began their meeting with a reorganization. He advised that Mrs. Heine was elected vice chair and he was elected as the secretary. Dr. Dressler commented that Mr. Moritzen gave his report and mentioned the 2018 Skills USA Competition where 2 female students in the automotive technology program won awards. He also reported that a male student in the won first place in auto service technology which awarded him a 25% scholarship at the Automotive Training Center. Dr. Dressler advised that the Western Center received visits from State Representative Marcy Topel of Gilbertsville and from the Butler County Career and Technology Center in order to tour the Sports Medicine Program which is drawing a lot of attention throughout the state. Dr. Dressler reported that the current enrollment is 524 students with 170 new applicants with 92 of them from our freshman class. Dr. Dressler spoke of the community buffet taking place on March 5th featuring a California buffet. He commented that the JOC finished their meeting with a budget report which indicated that the proposed budget increased by $87,720 and Spring-Ford's contribution to the Western Center budget is $96,313. Dr. Dressler stated that since we are successfully encouraging more of our students to attend the Western Center we have a bigger piece of the pie and as such pay a larger amount. Dr. Dressler added that the increase in the budget can be attributed to the increase in PSERS and in the cost of insurance.

Mrs. Zasowski noted that the online registration is to be completed by March 15th.

PSBA Liaison Dr. Edward Dressler
Dr. Dressler reported that at their last meeting they discussed the State Senate Bill 2. He advised that he contacted State Senator Rafferty's office and was told that the bill was still in the Education Committee and has been there since October and there was no indication that it was going to be moving out of that committee. Dr. Dressler stated that they have until the end of the year to act on it. He added that PSBA had reported

that there is a greater interest in technical career opportunities. Dr. Dressler reported that Pennsylvania has 80 Career and Technology Centers in 120 school districts. He added that they offer students a taste of the work world and a peak at viable alternatives to the four year college degree. Dr. Dressler stated that the high cost of a college degree coupled with the availability of good jobs for skilled workers is driving a shift in student's attention to perhaps considering careers in a technical field. He also credited the shift in parent support of career and technical education. Dr. Dressler commented that Governor Tom Wolf has been adamant that Pennsylvania expand its investment in career and technology programs.

Legislative Committee Christina Melton 3rd Weds. 7:30 p.m.
Mrs. Melton reported that she was not able to attend the meeting due to an emergency. She commented that Senate Bill 2 as Dr. Dressler reported is still in the Education Committee and there is nothing dramatic on this. She reported that House Bill 1213 which deals with the ability to appeal tax assessments for school districts is gaining a little bit of steam and she cautioned that we need to keep our eyes on this.

Dr. Dressler asked about the impact this bill could have on the district and Mr. Fitzgerald replied it has to do with our ability to commence reverse appeals on under-assessed properties. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that we could defend ourselves on an appeal that was brought against us but it would restrict our ability to pursue reverse appeals. Dr. Dressler commented that this could have a great financial impact on us in the future.

Mrs. Melton asked for clarification that it was for both residential and commercial properties and Mr. Fitzgerald confirmed this was correct.

MCIU Thomas J. DiBello 4th Weds. 7:00 p.m.
Mr. DiBello reported that the MCIU Board spent a lot of time at last month's meeting onboarding 8 new members, going through the basics with them and reviewing some of the ongoing projects. He added that they talked about some of the big projects such as the Pre-K and Early Intervention Programs and the enhancement of the building which housed the old IU. Mr. DiBello advised that they also discussed Senate Bill 2 and House Bill 1213. He spoke about the Harper Amendment and provided background on this. Mr. DiBello spoke of Representative Warren Kampf's support of the bill and that there is a lot of development going on in his area which could cause assessments to rise. He added that if you do not have the ability to go after those assessed values then as a school district you are stuck in the water. He added that this is not a good bill and he does not believe that districts in this part of the county are interested in searching out that home that might be under-assessed by $10,000 and picking up an extra $60 in taxes. Mr. DiBello addressed commercial properties and if they are under-assessed it is a problem for school districts if we are not permitted to go after the assessed values. Mr. DiBello cautioned that as a school district we should be paying close attention to House Bill 1213 and not as much on Senate Bill 2 right now.

Personnel Committee Bernard F. Pettit
Mr. Pettit reported that the Personnel Committee met with the representatives from the Secretarial Staff to receive input and suggestions on the upcoming Secretarial Plan.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David R. Goodin
Dr. Goodin invited everyone to attend the grand opening of the High School Innovation Center on March 1st from 2:30-5:00. He gave a brief description of what the Innovation Center is and how students can use it. Dr. Goodin reported that the 2nd Annual Stem Fair

was held last week and he extended thanks to Dr. Colyer for all his efforts in planning the event and the teachers who made time to be at the event. Dr. Goodin advised that the MCIU will be offering 2 sessions on March 21st on online safety.

Mr. DiBello asked about the Robotics Competition and Dr. Colyer was present and able to provide an update. He reported that two weeks ago Spring-Ford hosted its 3rd Vex Robotics Competition which was the biggest event hosted thus far as 60 teams were there to participate. He advised that it was a great success and that our students competed at a high standard and many have advanced to the state competition level. Dr. Colyer stated that they will continue to host these tournaments and advised that Vex Robotics are part of the Technology Club.

Solicitor's Report Mark Fitzgerald

Mr. Fitzgerald reported that today initial oral arguments were heard at the Supreme Court on the case involving a public employee from Illinois challenging fair share fees for his public union. Mr. Fitzgerald commented that his understanding is that the matter will be decided by the Supreme Court in June. He stated that if there is a decision for the plaintiff it could effectively outlaw fair share fees for non-union members. Mr. Fitzgerald commented that this could be very destabilizing for some districts as some have a number of unions whereas Spring-Ford has one.

Mr. DiBello asked if the decision made would only affect Illinois or other states as well. Mr. Fitzgerald replied that it would effectively find that any state that has fair share laws, Pennsylvania being one of them, those laws would be found to be unconstitutional on First Amendment grounds.

Dr. Dressler stated that this would weaken unions considerably and Mr. Fitzgerald agreed that this is what the analysts are saying but we will have to see how it plays out.

IV. MINUTES

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-B and Mr. Jackson seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. The Board approved the January 16, 2018 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A1)**

B. The Board approved the January 22, 2018 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A2)**

V. PERSONNEL

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-E and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. **Resignations**

1. **Molly A. Bowe;** Level IV Secretary, District Office. Effective: February 23, 2018.

2. **Talia Frisco;** Instructional Assistant, Limerick Elementary School. Effective: February 5, 2018.

3. **Deborah Kovach;** Food Service, 8th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: March 30, 2018.

4. **Suzanne Mosebrook;** Registered Nurse, Limerick Elementary School. Effective: February 14, 2018.

B. **Leaves of Absence**

1. **Joan E. Kenney;** Speech Teacher, 7th Grade Center, for child-rearing leave per the Professional Agreement. Effective: April 20, 2018 through the first marking period of the 2018-2019 school year.

2. **Andrea Sandberg;** Elementary Teacher, Brooke Elementary, for an unpaid leave of absence per Board Policy. Effective: January 29, 2018 for approximately 8 weeks.

C. **Support Employees**

1. **Kristen M. Monastero;** Instructional Assistant, 7th Grade Center, replacing Ashley Miller who resigned. Compensation has been set at $17.36 (degree rate) with benefits, per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: February 26, 2018

2. **Richard S. Prevete;** Audio Visual Technician, Senior High School, replacing Tyler Emel who resigned. Compensation has been set at $23.00 an hour with benefits. Effective: To be determined.

New Support Employee

3. **Elise-Marie A. Lannutti;** Instructional Assistant, Royersford Elementary School. Compensation has been set at $17.36 (degree rate) with benefits, per the Instructional Assistants' Plan. Effective: To be determined.

D. The Board approved the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2017-2018 school year. **(Attachment A3)**

New Personnel Motion

E. The Board approved the 2018 Extended School Year Program (ESY) and the positions identified below to be held at the 5/6th Grade Center. The program will be held June 21, 2018 through July 26, 2018; Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM.

1. Thirty (30) Special Education Teachers at a rate of $40.00 per hour.
2. Eight (8) Special Education Teachers-Tutors at a rate of $40.00 per hour.
3. Five (5) Special Education Teachers with WILSON experience for individual students as per the students' ESY IEP's at a rate of $40.00 per hour
4. Four (4) Speech Therapists at a rate of $40.00 per hour.
5. One (1) Behavior Specialist at a rate of $40.00 per hour
6. One (1) School Counselor at a rate of $40.00 per hour.
7. One (1) Certified School Nurse or Registered Nurse (5 hours/day) at a rate of $40.00.
8. Fifty-Five (55) Instructional Assistants. Rates will vary between $16.36 – $20.05 per hour depending on experience and educational degree.

VI. FINANCE

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-J and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

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. 202234 – 202661 $1,549,265.83

2. Food Service Checks
   Check No. 656 – 727 $ 94,470.93

3. Capital Reserve Checks
   Check No. 2020 - 2023 $ 285,878.55

4. General Fund, Food Service, & Capital Reserve ACHs
   ACH 171800443 - 171800549 $1,402,400.78

C. The Board approved the following monthly Board reports:

- Skyward Reports
  - General Fund Check Register
  - Food Service Check Register
  - Capital Reserve Check Register
  - ACH Check Register
  - Summary Revenue Report
  - Summary Expense Report

D. 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. **All For Kidz – Lynnwood, WA.** Provide a character education program assembly for students in grades K-4 at Brooke Elementary entitled "The NED Show". Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed $2,000.00.

2. **Benmore Enterprises – Bushkill, PA.** Provide two assemblies for students in second grade at Limerick Elementary entitled "Dino Dig". Funding will be paid by the Limerick Home and School League and shall not exceed $525.00.

3. **Musicopia – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide a mini Artist in Residency Program for fourth grade students at Spring City Elementary on "Bucket Drumming" with Leon Jordan. There is no cost to the school district as all funding will be paid by the Bard Foundation and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

4. **Musicopia – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide an assembly for students at Spring City Elementary entitled "Afro-Cuban Trio" featuring Leana Song. There is no cost to the school district as all funding will be paid by the Bard Foundation and the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts.

5. **Musicopia – Philadelphia, PA.** Provide an assembly for students at Spring City Elementary entitled "Bollywood Dancing" featuring Swati Chaturvedi. There is no cost to the school district as all funding will be paid by the Bard Foundation and the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts.

E. The Board approved the following independent contracts:

1. **Timothy School – Berwyn, PA.** Provide school year services for a special needs student as per the IEP. Services will be provided at a tuition rate of $41,416.00 for the remainder of the school year. In addition, the Timothy School will provide a 1-1 assistant at a rate of $193.50 per day for 105 days for a total of $20,317.50. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed a total of $61,733.50.

2. **Chester County Intermediate Unit – Downingtown, PA.** Provide Educational services for four special needs students as per their IEPs. The CCIU schools that will be providing services are TCHS-Pickering and TCHS Brandywine. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $60,167.16.

3. **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 2017-2018 school year as requested by parents/guardians. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed $18.00 per student physical.

4. **A Fresh Start Fitness – Pottstown, PA.** Provide kid inspired workouts that build self-esteem and educates students about health and nutrition at Evans Elementary. Funding will be paid from the General Fund and shall not exceed $1,200.00.

F. The Board approved the 2018-2019 Montgomery County Intermediate Unit's Member Services Budget in the amount of $1,518,580.00. This amount represents no increase over the 2017-2018 overall budget amount. Spring-Ford's share for 2018-2019 is $116,906.00 which is a $1,766.00 increase over last year's amount.

G. The Board gave approval to accept 80% of the principal amount owed for rollback taxes for tax years 2011 through and including tax year 2016 for the property located on Swamp Pike in Limerick Township and further identified as tax parcel number 37-00-05125-11-2 to resolve a claim made by the property owner. The Board of School Directors shall not reduce the total amount of principal owed for rollback taxes for the above-noted property by an amount greater than $15,764.09. There will be no abatement of any interest and penalty owed whatsoever for any year at issue. The Board of School Directors also hereby authorizes Fox Rothschild to enter into an agreement, if necessary, memorializing the foregoing.

H. The Board authorized Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 328 N. Lewis Road (Condo Unit 2) in Limerick Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 37-00-01519-00-1 setting the assessment of the property at $513,950.00

for tax year 2018 (school tax year 2018-19) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.

I. The Board authorized Hughes, Kalkbrenner & Ozorowski, LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 1820 Ridge Pike in Limerick Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 61-00-04423-00-7 setting the assessment of the property at $6,457,380 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-2017); $6,445,890 for the tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-2018); and $6,216,090 for the tax year 2018 (school tax year 2018-2019) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.

J. The Board authorized Hughes, Kalkbrenner & Ozorowski, LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 200 Mill Road in Upper Providence Township and further identified as tax parcel No. 61-00-03682-03-7 setting the assessment of the property at $6,283,160 for tax year 2016 (school tax year 2016-2017); $6,271,980 for the tax year 2017 (school tax year 2017-2018); and $6,048,380 for the tax year 2018 (school tax year 2018-2019) and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.

VII. PROPERTY

Mrs. Zasowski made a motion to approve Items A-G and Mrs. Melton seconded it.

Mr. Dehnert commented on Item G saying he felt that there should be some type of duration set on how long they are going to take to do the report as right now it is open ended. Mr. Dehnert added that under the agreement terms it says that they own whatever they produce which is a report and we should own the report and be able to do whatever we want with it as there is no intellectual property in the report. Mr. Dehnert felt that if we are paying them to do a report then we should own it.

Mr. DiBello asked Mr. Fitzgerald to look at this and make the appropriate change or understand what they are trying to state here. Mr. Fitzgerald replied that he would suggest if the motion is being approved tonight that we make it subject to final approval by the administration and the solicitor's office.

Mrs. Melton made a motion to amend Item G to include the additional wording "subject to final approval by the administration and the solicitor's office" as suggested by the solicitor. Mrs. Heine seconded the motion. The amendment to Item G passed 9-0.

The Board approved Items A-G with the amended wording 9-0.

A. The Board gave approval for WTI, as per the plans and specifications, to re-coat the sloped metal roof Phase I at Spring-Ford Area High School for a total cost of $447,839.21. This will be completed thru AEPA/KPN proposal #5033168. Work will be completed over the summer of 2018. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve.

B. The Board gave approval to process a new purchase order for the increased costs incurred by Turf Track and Court for the extra work that was performed to complete the 9th Grade Center artificial turf field. This cost includes mileage, drawing reproductions and change order clarification for a total cost of $358.12. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve.

C. The Board gave approval to award to R.J. McCarville the contract to replace the folding operable doors at Brooke Elementary School for the lowest RFP of $19,997.00 and rejecting all others. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve.

D. The Board gave to retain Henry Building Services, LLC to draw up specifications and place out to bid the replacement of the Oaks Elementary School chiller. The costs shall not exceed $20,000.00. Funding will come from the Maintenance Budget.

E. The Board gave approval to retain ICS Consulting, Inc. to develop costs and plans to create a new storage copy room at the Flex Building and place out to bid for a total cost of $3,200.00. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve.

F. The Board gave approval to retain Village Architecture and Preservation to draw up specifications/drawings and bids for the replacement of windows at the 9th Grade Center for a total cost of $29,000.00. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve.

New Property Motion

G. The Board gave approval to have Integrated Security Systems update the district's security vulnerability assessment as per their proposal #180222-801. The proposal will include a complete evaluation of the existing assessment and will provide new recommendations for district-wide security and safety. Funding will come from the 2017-2018 Maintenance Budget and shall not exceed $12,400.00. Subject to final approval by the administration and the solicitor's office.

VIII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

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

A. The Board approved awarding to the lowest bidder, Omega Systems of West Lawn, PA, for the low bid of $1,069,579.98 for the final phase of the E-Rate Networking Project, rejecting all other alternative bids and all other contractor's bids. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve. The E-Rate Category 2 Rebate Program (approximately 40% of the total cost), as well as the Technology Operating Budgets of 2018-2019 through 2022-2023 will replenish the Capital Reserve.

New Programming and Curriculum

B. The Board approved the 2018 Cool School Program to run from June 18 – July 12, 2018. This program will be open to all elementary students. Approximately 40 teachers will instruct the courses and their reimbursement will be at the contract established rate of $30.00 per hour plus benefits. A stipend of $5,000.00 will be paid to **Kristin A. Landis** as the Coordinator of the Cool School Program. There will be no cost to the district as all expenses will be covered by the student tuition fees.

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-I and Mrs. Zasowski 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

DISTRICT OFFICE

A. **Mary Davidheiser,** Controller, **Catherine Gardy,** K-12 Literacy Supervisor, to attend the *"PAFPC 2018 Annual Conference"* at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center from April 29, 2018 through May 2, 2018. The total cost of this conference is $1,691.00 (registration, mileage, lodging and meals) to be paid from Federal Program Funds. No substitutes are needed.

B. **Erin Crew,** Manager of Communications/Marketing, to attend the "*PenSPRA Symposium"* at Shippensburg University on April 12 and April 13, 2018. The total cost of the conference is $350.00 (registration, mileage and lodging). No substitute is needed.

C. **Rachael Fenyus,** Accountant, to attend *"Elements of School Law and Organization"* in Kulpsville, PA on May 10, 2018. The total cost for this conference is $165.00 (registration and mileage). No substitute is needed.

D. **Michael McDaniel,** Athletic Director, to attend the *"Pennsylvania State Athletic Directors Association Annual Conference"* in Hershey, PA from March 20, 2018 through March 23, 2018. The total cost for this conference is $982.00 (registration, mileage, lodging and meals). No substituted is needed.

E. **Gwendolyn Phillips,** School Police Officer, to attend *"Mid-Atlantic Association of Women in Law Enforcement: Sandy Hook Tragedy"* at the Radisson Hotel in King of Prussia, PA on March 19, 2018. The total cost for this conference is $112.72 (registration, mileage, meals). No substitute is needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

F. **Alison Reichwein,** Technology Education Teacher, to attend *"PLTW Refresher Day"* at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA on March 13, 2018. The total cost for this conference is $342.00 (registration and one day of substitute coverage).

G. **Bradley J. Seltzer,** Teacher, to attend the *"AP Summer Institute"* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA from July 30, 2018 through August 2, 2018. The total cost for this conference is $975.00 (registration). No substitute is needed.

H. **Seth Jones,** Band Director, **Emily McGranahan**, Orchestra Director, and **Yvonne O'Dea**, Choral Director, to attend the *"PMEA All-State Annual Conference and Inservice Convention"* in Lancaster, PA from April 18 through April 21, 2018. Mr. Jones, Ms. McGranahan and Mrs. O'Dea will accompany students who have qualified for All-State Ensembles. The total cost of the conference is $4,338.00 (registration, mileage, lodging, meals and 3 days of substitute coverage for the 3 teachers).

DISTRICT-WIDE

I. **Cathy Bradfield** and **Laura McNeil Murphy,** Certified School Nurses and Department Chairs, to attend *"PA School Nurse Association Conference"* in State College, PA from April 13, 2018 through April 15, 2018. The total cost for this conference is $1,858.00 (registration, mileage, lodging, meals and one day of substitute coverage for each).

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-F and Mr. Jackson seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. The Board gave approval for **Genevieve M. Brooks** for Early College Admission. Genevieve is a strong student ranked well within the top twenty-five percent of her class and meets the qualification under the Spring-Ford Guidelines for Early College Admissions. The High School Guidance and Professional Staff feel that Genevieve will succeed in college and endorse her application.

B. The Board acknowledged the acceptance of the donation from the Evans Elementary Home and School Association in the amount of approximately $25,000.00 for the purchase and installation of a permanent hard structure pavilion including the purchase of 6 picnic tables to be placed under the steel structure. The Home and School Association will pay the vendor directly for this project. The work will be completed over the summer. There will be no cost to the district.

C. The Board acknowledged the acceptance of the donation of approximately $8,006.59 from the A Team to be used towards the purchase of supplies and equipment for use in the K-12 Special Education classrooms. The A Team is an Autism Support Network comprised of parents, educators and community autism service providers who offer supportive and informational resources for families caring for children/adults on the autism spectrum.

D. The Board approved the 2018-2019 school calendar. **(Attachment A4)**

E. The Board gave approval for all Spring 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.

F. The following policies were approved:

1. Policy #121 – PROGRAMS: Field Trips/Educational Trips **(Attachment A5)**
2. Policy #213 – PUPILS: Assessment of Student Progress **(Attachment A6)**

XI. New Other Business

Mr. DiBello recommended that the Board table this motion to wait and see what happens with Senate Bill 2 and Mrs. Melton seconded this. The motion to table the adoption of Resolution 2018-01 passed 9-0.

A. Board tabled the adoption of **Resolution 2018-01** opposing Senate Bill 2 and any other legislation or any effort by the General Assembly to implement tuition vouchers or any program that would have an effect of a tuition voucher program, and conveys the importance of supporting and improving the quality of all public schools in the Commonwealth. **(Attachment A7)**

XII. BOARD COMMENT

Mr. Dehnert spoke about the two proposals administration had received to provide armed guards at all schools and he questioned which Board Committee should review and discuss those proposals.

Mr. DiBello advised that he spoke with Mr. Fitzgerald and due to the sensitivity of the subject that the Board can hold an executive session to discuss this further. He added that the administration can present the information in an executive session and as long as the Board is not deliberating on this it can be discussed.

Mr. Pettit asked about the timeframe and Mr. DiBello said that in order to keep it within the budget timelines for the 2018-2019 school year, if we are looking to implement it then, we would have to have some decisions or ideas in place before finalizing the budget. Mr. DiBello added that the security review being done will play into this as well. Mr. DiBello indicated that they will have to move quickly over the next two months. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the timeline for needing the information for the budget will have to play into the deadline for the security review contract as well.

Dr. Goodin commented that the tragic events in Florida are something that we grapple with every day as this is a fact of everyday life. He stated that student safety is never far from the front burner. He added that the district continues to look at ideas on how to keep students safe and referenced the ALICE training that rolled out this year as well as internal procedures done by staff. He thanked the Board for the approval of the refresher of the security audit and clarified that the last audit was actually done in 2014. Dr. Goodin stated that security audit that was done back then was a very large document and we have been working off of it over the past several years. He assured everyone that the district will continue to be vigilant on student safety and will continue to make improvements.

Mr. Dehnert spoke of the March 14th National Student Protest Day and felt that as a district we should not permit protests. He stated that by allowing one protest we open up the door to allowing all types of protests.

Mr. Pettit disagreed and felt the students should be permitted to protest.

Mrs. Melton felt that the district could come up with a mutually agreeable solution and suggested that possibly student could go into the auditorium for some type of assembly. She stated that there were ways to work through this and allow students to voice their opinion and concern.

Mr. DiBello asked Mr. Fitzgerald to speak on this and questioned what liability the district had as we are responsible for students during the school day. Mr. Fitzgerald commented that the responsibility for any district is what is foreseeable under the circumstances so the administration would be working with the students and their staff within the school to prevent anything bad from occurring. Mr. DiBello asked if there was legal precedence as far as students walking out of the building and Mr. Fitzgerald replied that the only liability the district would have is under the 1983 state created danger liability. He advised that this would be based on us knowing there was danger and we did not act on it and put our staff and students in danger.

Mrs. Melton commented that there would be no difference in liability than any given Tuesday where a student left school in the middle of the day and got into an accident. Mr. Fitzgerald agreed saying it is based on what we know.

Mrs. Zasowski stated that the walk out is for 17 minutes on March 14th and she suggested that possibly the district could offer other options for remembering the 17 Florida victims. She suggested that we focus on how to do better to and for our neighbor such as saying hello to 17 people you normally would not talk to, smile at 17 people you normally would not acknowledge in the hallway, reach out to those people who might be feeling a little bit more alone and take the extra step to do this remembering those 17 victims during this 17 minutes.

Dr. Dressler commented that he felt that students should define what their feelings are and how they should react. He expressed that he was against suspending students who walk out and felt that their feelings needed to be respected.

Mr. DiBello clarified that no one from Spring-Ford said anything about suspending students.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he could not find a Board Policy on student protests and added that this is something that possibly the Policy Committee should look at. He cautioned that we could be inundated with protests if we condone one. He felt that the district needed a policy on how the students could protest. He suggested that the students could hold an after school event and that there were all kinds of things they could do and that for us to determine which protests are good and which ones are bad is not good.

Taylor Stevens spoke on behalf of students saying that this is a public school and with their first amendment right they do have the right to protest and to voice their opinion no matter what it be even if it does disrupt class which she did not believe they should do. Taylor added that she liked the idea of having an assembly where everyone gets together and talk about what happened as it is a serious issue that does need to be addressed. She commented that it is a very upsetting and very troubling thing which no one can deny. Taylor stated that if they have an opinion their voices are allowed to be heard as they should.

Dr. Goodin commented that administration is working with student leadership to make appropriate plans as we do have students who are very upset about what happened and the lives that were lost. He reported that just today he met with all of the Superintendents from across the county to talk about the topic of how to address this. He stated that there is a certain degree of rights that students have as far for self-expression. Dr. Goodin added that we teach our students how to be civic minded and how to address politicians to enact change but we want to do this in a very organized way and show our support for our students. Dr. Goodin assured that they will be working with students to make sure that they are as effective as they possibly can be.

Mr. Fitzgerald clarified that the issue for the protest is not the speech viewpoint and the district is not making a statement on freedom of speech but more on the time, place and manner. He indicated that the district is permitted to do this under constitutional law.

Mr. DiBello commented that he supports the students in their efforts but stated that the district is charged with keeping students safe. He expressed that he wished the media was not pushing this the way they are and he cautioned that we need to be cognizant of being safe.

XIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Erik Hetrick, Upper Providence, commented that he is proud to be part of a proactive district. He stated that there are many security measures in place which have led us to be named as one of the ten safest districts. Mr. Hetrick referenced last week's meeting with the discussion on having armed guards in all of our buildings and he stated that statistically armed guards do not work. He felt that armed guards and arming teachers was not the answer and he did not want schools to be prisons. He spoke of the ALICE training saying it was an excellent program. He talked about other alternatives that could be used in the event of an intruder such as fire extinguishers, keyed dead-bolts and escape ladders for 2nd floor classrooms. He felt that schools should focus more on teaching empathy and compassion rather than having academic pressure from the state level being the main focus of society. He added that he felt there was a desperate need for more school counselors and psychologists to work with kids who are at risk. Mr. Hetrick spoke about a responsive classroom course he took over the summer and urged the Board to look into this. He commented that when you are together with students and peers 180 days during the school year, you become a family. He added that he is proud of being part of this family and wants to see it continue to grow and be successful. Mr. Hetrick stated that metal detectors and armed guards cannot do this.

Mr. DiBello thanked Mr. Hetrick for his comments and stated that they are continually looking and trying to enhance what is best for the Spring-Ford Community. Mr. DiBello added they will do the analysis on what it would take to bring armed guards into Spring-Ford but that they are not making any decisions but just doing our due diligence. Mr. DiBello agreed that the amount of touchpoints counselors have with students is not enough and the amount of paperwork required by the state is high. He stated that he hopes that we will continue to thrive to be the best at Spring-Ford and protect our students. Mr. DiBello addressed the community and said that if they are not hearing something said at the table it does not mean that it is not looking into it in a very detailed manner. He stated that as heard earlier the Board will be meeting in executive sessions due to the sensitivity of the issue and have administration provide information so that they can make appropriate decisions and do everything they possibly can in the district.

Victoria Melton, Royersford, and **Makayla Brant,** Spring City**,** students. Victoria stated that during the protests no one is planning to leave the building. She advised that they are getting up and leaving class and that it is a silent protest for 17 minutes. She stated that they will be remembering the 17 lives that were lost as it very easily could have been their lives. Victoria commented that there is nothing in our schools keeping students more protected than the students in Parkland and stated that in her opinion she felt that we were less protected than the Parkland students. She added that they come to school every day hoping to be safe but go home and watch the news and hear of another school shooting. Victoria expressed that she felt they have every right to have their voices heard about how they feel.

Mark Backer, Royersford, spoke of his military career. He spoke about the issue being students being able to get weapons and the importance of keeping weapons locked up. Mr. Backer commented that by not allowing people to have an AR14 or assault rifles it does not take away their right to bear arms. He expressed that he did not support teachers having guns in school. He spoke about the ineffectiveness of the Raptor System and that cameras in buildings were not deterrents but were only going to record tragedies. Mr. Backer commented that schools by design are not meant to be secure.

He spoke in length about security experiences he had going into schools in other districts where he was a guest speaker. Mr. Backer suggested that the Board look into an organization called the American Society of Industrial Security.

Mr. Fitzgerald stopped Mr. Backer from further comments due to the length of his comments and said if his position is that individuals not be armed then we are clear on that position.

Mike Stralkowski, Limerick Township, commented that he has two daughters in the district and when they are with him they are fully protected as he is legally permitted to carry a firearm. He felt that that there is a lot of misinformation on guns. He spoke of students being told to get in a classroom and hide behind the door and how easily it would be for an armed intruder to breach the door. Mr. Stralkowski spoke of a school in New Mexico where the school granted the principal and security guards the ability to be armed. He indicated that on that day there was an assembly held by a news station who asked the students if they felt safer knowing that there were armed guards in the schools and that the response was that 100% indicated that they felt safer. He urged the district to ask the students what would make them feel safer as students want their voices heard.

Dr. Dressler commented that in the Parkland case the local police department were not property trained to deal with this incident. Mr. DiBello responded that we do not know this and he does not want to put false information out. Dr. Dressler reported that on March 10th at the Western Center there was going to be an active shooter drill conducted by the local police departments, fire departments and a SWAT Team to make sure that the community and school is better prepared to deal with this type of incident. He expressed that he hoped that the local police for the other schools would be actively trained to deal with this type of incident. Mr. DiBello advised that we have had those same drills at Spring-Ford multiple times.

Mr. Fitzgerald reminded the Board that in meeting for an informational session that any approval process would have to come back for approval at a public board meeting. He also advised that the district has a very comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with all of the municipalities that touch upon all of the schools in the district. He stated that it is discussed and met upon multiple times a year and is comprehensive in nature going beyond state law with regards to our interaction with municipalities on these very same issues.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dehnert made a motion adjourn and Mr. Jackson seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

On January 16, 2018 the Work Session 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 and Linda C. Fazzini
Region II:	Dawn R. Heine, Clinton L. Jackson and Colleen Zasowski
Region III:	Mark P. Dehnert and Christina F. Melton
Presiding Officer:	Thomas J. DiBello
Superintendent:	Dr. David R. Goodin
Chief Financial Officer:	James D. Fink
Solicitor:	Kyle Berman, Esq.
Student Reps.:	Taylor Stevens and Nandini M. Patel

The following Board Member was absent: **Bernard F. Pettit**

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Taylor announced that the Great Kindness Challenge in Spring-Ford will kick-off in 5 days. She advised that schools across the district as well as the District Office will spread kindness throughout the community from January 22nd to January 26th. More information can be found on the district website or on each individual school's webpage.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY
There were none.

II. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Rep. Report Taylor Stevens/Nandini Patel
Nandini reported that the second marking period will come to an end on January 25th and that mid-terms will be taking place for all high school students from January 22nd to the 25th. Nandini advised that registration to take AP tests will be open until February 7th and if anyone has any questions they can contact Mrs. Bowlby and/or Mrs. Falco in the Future Planning Center. Nandini next reported that beginning this month, monthly discussions will be held with Dr. Nugent and Dr. Weidenbaugh and two students from each of the four grade levels. The purpose for these meetings are that it will provide both students and administration an opportunity to come together and discuss what changes they would like to see and also to provide the administration with an in-depth look at all students.

Finance Thomas J. DiBello 2nd Tues. 6:30 p.m.
Mr. DiBello reported that the Finance Committee met on January 9th where they went through the monthly reports which show that we are on target and in a few budget areas we are trending ahead of schedule which is a good thing. He added that as we get further into the year some of the expenditures will catch up to the revenue coming in. Mr. DiBello reported that for the rest of the meeting since there were new Board Members present it was thought that it would be beneficial to have Mr. Fink and staff to go through the budget, the budget process and get into detail on the seven-year rolling budget forecast. They

also discussed the 20 year Maintenance Plan which is also known as the Capital Project Plan and discussed the five-year rolling Technology Plan. The committee also received an update on the PSERS rate which has been set by the state and for the first time in 3 or 4 years they came in slightly less than what had originally been projected. Mr. DiBello stated that he had asked about the finalizing of the audit and was advised that it should be concluded in the next month or so and at that point we will be able to see what funds may be left over from last year's budget year.

Dr. Dressler asked about PSERS and whether their financial situation had improved considerably with regards to the stock market success recently. Mr. Fink replied that he has not gotten the official report back from PSERS but his guess would be that it had something to do with why they dropped the rate.

Property Thomas J. DiBello 2nd Tues. 7:30 p.m.

Mr. DiBello reported that the Property Committee met following the Finance Committee meeting and went through old business and got an update on the high school project from Crabteee. The update indicated that the drawings are ready to be recorded at the court house and the staging area for contractors' will near the performing arts additional parking area. He added that submittal and delivery timelines were discussed and we are on target for getting the packets out to bid. Mr. DiBello reported that the goal from the Property Committee standpoint is to come to the full board in the March or April timeline to review the bids and determine if and how we are going to proceed forward. He added that they should keep in mind that this is the last stop gate as far as if it will be a go or no go decision. Mr. DiBello reported that they received an update on the auditorium lighting project will be completed January 19th. He added that the Capital Reserve Plan will be projected out to 2035 and will be ready for the February Property Committee meeting for review. Mr. DiBello reported that they discussed other projects, some that are on the agenda for review this evening, such as the sewer pit project at Spring City Elementary, 5/6 Grade Center Phase II Roof Project and Brooke folding partitions. He advised that the state came out with new thresholds on bids which is something that is done on a yearly basis. He added that each year when the thresholds change we have had to revise our policy as in the past it listed what the state thresholds were. Mr. DiBello advised that going forward we will be changing our policy to read "to be in alignment with state thresholds" which will prevent us from having to revise the policy every time the state changes the thresholds. Mr. DiBello reported that other projects discussed were the replacement of the carpet at the 5/6/7 building, the window replacement at the 9th Grade Center, LED lighting replacement at Oaks and Limerick Elementary, the repairs to Ram Stadium with the cost of the repairs being split with the Spring City American Legion, the Oaks chiller, the 8th Grade Center fire alarm, and the high school roof recoating for the science wing.

Superintendent's Report Dr. David R. Goodin

Dr. Goodin gave a shout out to the Western Center on their hiring of a new chef about 2 years ago. He reported that the district office held a luncheon there and the food was exceptional. He added that Chef Arnt has taken the program to a whole new level. Dr. Goodin advised that the district will be holding its strategic planning meeting for the community and the board on January 31st at the high school. The purpose is to help gather information on the district's strengths, weaknesses and priorities moving forward. He advised that this is done every cycle when the strategic plan is due.

Mrs. Zasowski commented on the Western Center saying she had the privilege to tour the school today and see what they are doing over there which is much more than she knew.

She stated that she really wanted to commend them on everything they are doing and feels they should be super excited about the Sports Management Program. Mrs. Zasowski added that she is happy to be joining the Board over there and is looking forward to doing exciting things at the Western Center.

Solicitor's Report **Kyle Berman**
There was no report.

Mr. DiBello announced that the Board met in an Executive Session prior to this evening's meeting to discuss a personnel item.

III. MINUTES

There were no questions or comments.

A. Administration recommends approval of the November 20, 2017 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A1)**

B. Administration recommends approval of the November 27, 2017 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A2)**

C. Administration recommends approval of the December 4, 2017 Board Reorganization Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A3)**

IV. PERSONNEL

Mr. Dehnert asked about Item F and how much money is collected at the building level that the Accounts Receivable position would collect. Mr. Fink replied that currently the budget numbers are around $375,000 per year and in addition there is about another $375,000 that is collected through facilities rentals. Mr. Dehnert asked if the facility rentals are coming through the buildings and Mr. Fink replied no it currently is a process that has a lot of tentacles and no clear focus point. Mr. Fink added that the idea here is to bring it to a clear focus point with one person in control to safeguard the assets and ensure that the facility is being rented in accordance with the policy. Mr. Dehnert asked how the $375,000 is primarily broken out and Mr. Fink replied gate admissions, non-athletic extra-curricular fees, parking permits, student activities, summer school, Cool School tuition and all of these types of items. Mr. Dehnert stated that he is not in favor of adding administration when possibly we can improve the process. He added that he did not feel there was an educational benefit to this position being done today and possibly it could be done better through process, automation and other improvements rather than just hiring someone who is going to cost the district with benefits about $60,000 - $70,000.

Dr. Goodin pointed out that the Business Office did reduce 2 positions since Mr. Fink took over the department. He added that as Mr. Fink has been going through and reconfiguring job duties to ensure we are running as efficiently as possible Mr. Fink did come to him about 6 months ago and advise that there was a need to add this position back. Mr. Dehnert asked if it was not a net one position as one was added back as a secretary had retired and the position was replaced with an accountant. He added that the justification was that the money from the positions being reduced could better be used for a professional person. Mr. Fink explained that the district replaced a secretarial position with an accountant position and in addition to that the department eliminated 2 other positions. Mr. Dehnert asked which positions they were and Mr. Fink replied a secretary and a census position that did a small portion of child accounting and a small portion of facilities. Mr. Dehnert asked how the work was completed once these two positions left and Mr. Fink replied that some of the work

they performed was unnecessary and some was duplication of duties which through process changes was able to be eliminated. Mr. Fink advised that he would like to bring back one of the positions but with a different skill set that he is looking for with this position than what we had prior.

Mrs. Zasowski asked if this positon would be covering facilities going forward as in who is using the facilities and managing the income that is coming in and Mr. Fink replied that this position would be the focal point going forward in making sure that the use of facilities policy currently in place as well as the new on going forward are being followed as well as all paperwork for liability has been received.

Mr. Dehnert clarified that when he commented earlier that he did not mean to indicate it was an administrator position but rather administrative position.

Dr. Dressler commented that he wanted to comment on Mr. Cooper's announcement of his retirement and acknowledge the fine work he has done over all his years here. He stated that Mr. Cooper will certainly be missed for his expertise and expressed hope that the district will be able to find someone to fill his large shoes. Dr. Dressler wished Mr. Cooper all the best and stated that it will be tough to replace him and thanked him for all of his hard work.

Mr. Dehnert commented that Mr. Cooper plays a very important position in the district and has a very valuable part of the district. Mr. Dehnert asked if a plan had been formulated to replace Mr. Cooper as of yet and Dr. Goodin replied that once the Board accepts the resignation the position will be posted and he is already meeting with Mr. Cooper, Mr. Ziegler, Ms. Whitmore and Mr. Carson in order to make sure that all of the projects that are on the schedule are getting done and that there is a smooth transition. Mr. Dehnert suggested that in addition to just posting the position we actually try and recruit someone that is in the Philadelphia area that is doing this role somewhere else and is successful there as opposed to just posting the job and hoping that they apply. Dr. Goodin stated that they would try and steal somebody else.

A. **Resignations**

1. **Lori L. Blackburn;** Executive Secretary, District Office. Effective: January 12, 2018.

2. **Francine D. Caputo;** School Psychologist, Evans Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

3. **Stephanie Comptain-Bain;** Lacrosse Coach-Girls' (1/2 contract), Senior High School. Effective: January 12, 2018.

4. **Bruce Cooper;** Director of Planning, Operations and Facilities, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: April 4, 2018.

5. **Denise M. Emel;** Computer Club, 5/6th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: November 27, 2017.

6. **Denise M. Emel;** Business Education – Elementary Teacher, 5th/6th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Previously approved November 26, 2017. *Revised Effective Date: To coincide with the end of the 2017-2018 first semester.*

7. **Tyler Emel;** Audio-Visual Communications Technology, Senior High School. Effective: December 19, 2017.

8. **Zachary Fisher;** Assistant Wrestling Coach, 7th/ 8th/ 9th Grades. Effective: September 29, 2017.

9. **Joanne E. Garro;** Elementary Teacher, Limerick Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

10. **Susan S. Hess;** Media Specialist, Limerick and Spring City Elementary Schools, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

11. **Regina C. Hoff;** Elementary Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

12. **Joan E. Kenney;** Lacrosse Coach, 8th Grade Center. Effective: December 5, 2017.

13. **Rachael Munoz;** Spanish Teacher and Spanish Club Advisor, 7th Grade Center. Effective: December 5, 2017.

14. **Kathryn A. Pogwist;** Reading Specialist, Royersford Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

15. **Ellen D. Reilly;** English Teacher, Senior High School – 9th Grade, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

16. **William B. Racich;** Health & Physical Education Teacher, 8th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

17. **Margaret A. Stackhouse;** Business Teacher, Senior High School – 9th Grade, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

B. **Temporary Professional Employee**

1. **Emily M. McCallister;** Special Education Teacher, Spring-City Elementary School. Compensation has been set at MS, Step 1, $46,900.00, prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: January 2, 2018.

C. **Support Staff Employees**

1. **Teresa I. Bickley;** Instructional Assistant, Oaks Elementary School, replacing Dana Freas who resigned. Compensation has been set at $17.36 (degree rate), with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' plan. Effective: December 11, 2017.

2. **Monika A. Scavello;** Instructional Assistant, Upper Providence Elementary School, replacing Michelle Albanese who resigned. Compensation has been set at $17.36 (degree rate), with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' plan. Effective: January 2, 2018.

D. **Status Change**

1. **Andrew T. Rothermel;** Media Communication Assistant to Media Communication Manager, replacing Steven E. Bonetz. Salary has been set at $55,000.00, prorated with benefits. Effective: January 23, 2018.

E. **Personnel Information Item**
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. **Kathryn L. Ellor**

F. Administration recommends approval of the attached job description for an Accounts Receivable Specialist. **(Attachment A4)**

G. Administration recommends approval of the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2017-2018 school year. **(Attachment A5)**

V. 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. 201689 – 202233 $3,229,070.26

2. Food Service Checks
Check No. 539 – 655 $ 141,884.68

3. Capital Reserve Checks
Check No. 2018 - 2019 $ 92,121.72

4. General Fund, Food Service, & Capital Reserve ACHs
ACH 171800285 - 171800442 $2,241,643.96

5. Procurement Payments
201700120 – 201700164 $ 30,578.74

C. The following monthly Board reports are submitted for your approval:
- Skyward Reports
  - General Fund Check Register
  - Food Service Check Register
  - Capital Reserve Check Register
  - ACH Check Register
  - Procurement Check Register
  - Summary Revenue Report
  - Summary Expense Report

D. Administration recommends approval of the Preliminary General Fund Budget for the 2018-2019 school year in the amount of $165,080,371.00.

E. Administration recommends approval to file with the Department of Education the 2018-2019 referendum exceptions for Special Education Expenditures (Approximately $1,130,890.00) and Retirement Contributions (Approximately $358,800.00), for a total estimated amount of $1,489,690.00. These referendum exceptions represent approximately 1.5% and could be used for allowable millage over the Act 1 State Index cap amount of 2.4%. Exceptions are permitted due to the recognition that there are extraordinary district expenses above the rate of inflation.

F. 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 four assemblies for kindergarten students at Oaks Elementary entitled "Winter Secrets". Funding will be paid by the Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association and shall not exceed $440.00.

2. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide three assemblies for kindergarten students at Limerick Elementary entitled "Winter Secrets". Funding will be paid by Limerick Elementary Home and School League and shall not exceed $330.00.

3. **Marion Blumenthal Lazan – Hewlett, NY.** Provide two assemblies for students in grades 5 through 7 entitled "Four Perfect Pebbles". Funding will be split between the 5th/6th Grade Home and School Association and the 7th Grade Home and School Association and shall not exceed a total of $1,880.00.

4. **Art's Alive/Robyn Burckhardt – Spring City, PA** and **Denise Romano Bright – Sellersville, PA.** Provide an Artist in Residence Program for all students at Evans Elementary to design and create a painted mural to be displayed in the upper hallway at Evans Elementary School. Funding will be paid by the Evans Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed $3,920.00.

5. **Adam Lehrhaupt – Line Lexington, PA.** Provide three 45-minute presentations for students in grades 1-4, two mini presentations for kindergarten students and a book signing for all students at Brooke Elementary. Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed $1,500.00.

G. Administration recommends approval of the following independent contracts:

1. **Mobile Ed Productions, Inc. – Redford, MI.** Provide a state-of-the-art, hands-on children's "STEAM Museum" focused on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) education for students at Royersford Elementary. Funding will come from the Royersford Elementary School Assembly Budget and shall not exceed $1,195.00.

2. **Art's Alive/Robyn Burckhardt – Spring City, PA** and **Jessica Liddell – Narbeth, PA.** Provide and Artist in Residence Program for all students at Spring City Elementary to design and create a mosaic tile mural to be installed in the courtyard at Spring City

Elementary School. Funding will be split between the Spring City Home and School Association ($3,050.00) and the Spring City Assembly Budget ($2,000.00) and shall not exceed a total of $5,050.00.

3. **Humanus Corporation – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Psychological Services for special needs students who require initial psychoeducational evaluations and/or re-evaluations as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 37.5 hours per week for 20 weeks at a rate of $70.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $52,500.00.

4. **Kara Canale – Collegeville, PA.** Provide Psychological Services for special needs students who require initial psychoeducational evaluations and/or re-evaluations as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 15 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 $12,600.00.

VI. PROPERTY

There were no questions or comments.

A. Administration recommends approval of the service contract for district-wide mowing for the second year of a three-year option with Black Forest Landscaping and Snowplowing Inc., as per the RFP. The total cost for Year 2 is $1,321.00 per mowing based on an average of twenty-three mowings per year. Funding will come from the 2018-2019 General Maintenance Budget.

B. Administration recommends approval of the continuation of the contract for district-wide cleaning services for Year 3 of a three-year RFP with Interstate Maintenance Corporation of Horsham, PA. The total cost of Contract #1 is $796,588.92 beginning June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019. Contract #2 is $29.26 per hour per employee and contract #3 will be billed at $26.00 per hour per employee. Funding will come from the 2018-2019 General Maintenance Budget.

C. 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 the 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 $3,936.00. Funding will come from the 2017-2018 Maintenance Budget.

D. Administration recommends approval of a contract with WTI of Beachwood, Ohio, the lowest bidder through the State KPN process, for the replacement of the flat roof area at the 5/6 Grade Center side of the Flex Building. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve and shall not exceed a total cost of $187,093.12. The work will be completed over the summer of 2018.

E. Administration recommends approval to purchase new LED efficiency lighting to replace the old high sodium pressure lighting in the parking lots at Oaks Elementary School and Limerick Elementary School due to age and inefficiency. The lights will be purchased through Co-Stars Purchasing Agency. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve and shall not exceed $43,000.00. The work will be completed over the summer of 2018 by in-house staff.

F. Administration recommends approval for Tyco Simplex Grinnell of Allentown, PA to upgrade and replace the fire alarm system at the 8th Grade Center for a total cost of $69,826.53 as per their quotation through the Pennsylvania State Contract #4400015469. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve. The work will be completed over the summer of 2018.

G. Administration recommends approval to go out to bid and/or receive RFPs for the Maintenance Department service contracts district-wide for the 2018-2019 school year. All of these bids and RFPs will be placed on the May or June 2018 Board Agenda for approval. Funding will come from the 2018-2019 Maintenance Budget.

H. Administration recommends approval to purchase a new energy efficient chiller from Trane Equipment through a US Communities Contract #15-JLP-023/12-10012-17-001,002,003 to replace the old inefficient outdated chiller at Oaks Elementary School. The disconnection and reconnection which includes the wiring and piping will be completed by in-house staff over the summer of 2018. Funding shall be paid from the Capital Reserve Fund and shall not exceed $131,000.00.

VII. 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. **Linda C. Fazzini,** School Board Member, to attend *"PSBA New School Director Training"* at Upper Merion Area Middle School in King of Prussia, PA on December 15, 2017. The total cost of this conference is $185.00 (registration and mileage). No substitute is needed.

B. **Carol Ganister,** PIMS and Data Specialist, to attend *"PDE Data Summit"* in Hershey, PA from March 24, 2018 through March 28, 2018. The total cost of this conference is $777.60 (mileage, lodging and meals). No substitute is needed.

C. **Dr. Allyn Roche,** Assistant Superintendent, **Elizabeth Leiss,** Director of Human Resources, and **David Krakower,** Special Education Supervisor, to attend *"Delaware Valley Education Consortium Teacher Job Fair"* at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, PA on April 4, 2018. The total cost of this job fair is $425.00 (registration). No substitutes are needed.

D. **Catherine Gardy,** K-12 Literacy Supervisor, **Wendy Taylor,** Instructional Literacy Coach K-6, and **Megan Wilmarth,** Instructional Literacy Coach 7-12, to attend *"Tackling Text and Evidence Based Writing"* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on January 18, 2018. The total cost of this conference is $225.00 (registration). No substitutes are needed.

E. **Rachael Fenyus,** Staff Accountant, to attend *"Elements of Leadership and Management"* in Harrisburg, PA on April 10, 2018. The total cost of this conference is $225.00 (registration and mileage). No substitute is needed.

F. **Gregory Detwiler,** Lead Ground Maintenance, to attend the *"2018 Penn State Crops Conference"* in Allentown, PA on January 18, 2018. The total cost of the conference is $20.00 (registration). No substitute is needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

G. **Douglas Reigner,** House Principal, and **Ashley Bilotti,** Business Teacher and FBLA Advisor, to attend *"Future Business Leaders of America-State Leadership Competition and Conference"* at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center from April 9, 2018 through April 11, 2018. Ms. Bilotti will attend on April 9th and 10th while Mr. Reigner will attend on April 10th and 11th and accompany those students who have advanced to the state level of competition. The total cost to attend this conference is $1,039.00 (registration, lodging including meals, and 2 days of substitute coverage for Ms. Bilotti).

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Dehnert questioned Item A with regards to the method of travel being changed from a flight to a bus ride. He expressed his concern with the students being on a long bus ride for a short trip and their ability to be able to perform after the long bus ride. Mr. Dehnert questioned whether the $200 savings was worth it. He stated that in March there was also the danger of bad weather for driving.

Dr. Dressler agreed with Mr. Dehnert and commented that their option would be to vote against this.

Dr. Goodin responded that he was not sure it was the Board's decision on how they travel down to Florida as it is the band's and the booster's decision.

Mr. DiBello stated that what the Board is voting on is the cost to the district which is the cost for substitute coverage.

Mr. Dehnert commented that the Board approves the trip based on a set of circumstance which were that they were going to fly to Florida. He added that they were not just approving the substitute coverage. Mr. Dehnert again expressed concern over the students travelling by bus and potentially being tired and not performing well.

Dr. Dressler said he also is concerned over the safety issue with taking a bus to Florida.

Mrs. Zasowski questioned Item B with regards to a discussion they had about a student who was afraid of flying and they approved for the student to go by car. She asked if Item B was the student now flying and Dr. Goodin clarified that Item B was a different student who would is asking permission to travel by air with family due to health issues that would make the trip by bus impossible. He clarified that the previous discussion was in regards to a different student who would now be travelling by bus with the rest of the band.

Dr. Goodin added that the bus would leave at night and travel through the night getting the students there in the morning. Mr. Dehnert disputed the timeframe for leaving and arriving. Mr. Dehnert asked if the school district was liable if there were an accident. Dr. Goodin pointed out that the same would hold true if the band flew. Mr. Dehnert questioned if the students and parents were on board with this and Dr. Goodin replied yes.

Dr. Roche reported that he recently met with Mr. Jones, Ms. O'Dea and Ms. McGranahan on issues related to the trip such as student medications and at no point was there any conversation about anyone being upset about driving to Florida. He added that for whatever reason the decision was made to travel by bus and the Music Association is on board with this, chaperones are in place and everyone is ready to go. Dr. Roche offered to get more information, if necessary, for the Board for next week.

Mr. DiBello stated that he believes the change was due to the number of people who committed to going. Dr. Roche said he believes it is over 200 easy. Mr. Dehnert asked how many busses it would take if 200 were going and Dr. Roche replied 4 if you have 50-60 on a bus.

Mrs. Melton stated that she believes the numbers are closer to 300 if you put together the band, the vocal and the instrumental departments. Dr. Goodin advised that he can get the count for the Board for next week. Mrs. Melton added that there would be a couple trailers going as well to transport the instruments and equipment.

Mr. Jackson asked about Item B and if this is related to this trip. Dr. Goodin replied that this item has to do with a student having a medical issue and not being able to ride the bus for 15-16 hours so the parents have requested permission to be able to accompany and fly their student down to Orlando. Mr. Jackson asked what the district's legal exposure was for something like this and Dr. Goodin replied that this has already been run through legal and the Board only needs to approve the waiver that Fox Rothschild prepared for the parents to be able to do it.

Mr. DiBello noticed Clinton Fetterman entering the meeting and advised that there was some Board concern over the changing of the trip from flying to going by bus. He asked Mr. Fetterman to provide some information relating to this.

Mr. Fetterman stated that he is from Limerick Township and is the President of the Music Association and is running the trip to Disney with the Music Department. He commented that he did all of the research in working with a travel agent and stated that they normally would fly but they have over 300 people who have signed up for this trip. He stated that travelling with such a large group plus the fact that they are travelling in March during March Madness they found that many of the charter flights are used up by basketball teams and the trip costs were going over $1600. Mr. Fetterman explained that groups over 300 rarely travel by air but rather go by bus so they will be travelling with 7 busses to Disney World. Mr. DiBello asked what the estimated time of travel was and Mr. Fetterman replied about 20 hours with stops and switching drivers. Mr. DiBello asked how the parent approval was and Mr. Fetterman replied 98% are fine with the change and the ones who cannot travel by bus were pointed to contact Dr. Goodin for the waiver that the Board will have to approve. Mr. DiBello asked if they have ever done a trip like this before by bus and Mr. Fetterman replied yes to Nashville which was 18 hours. Mr. DiBello asked how the kids handled it and Mr. Fetterman replied that they were tired had the rest of the day to rest once they arrived and then were off and running the next day. Mr. DiBello stated that the main concern from the Board perspective is the length of time the students are on the bus and the impact on their ability to perform after that long drive plus the impact educationally when they return home and have to return to school. Mr. Fetterman explained that they will be arriving back at Spring-Ford around 6PM on Tuesday and will be returning to school on the next morning.

Dr. Dressler asked if the anticipation was that there would be about 6 busses travelling and Mr. Fetterman replied yes plus 1 truck with the equipment and uniforms.

Mr. Dehnert indicated that Mr. Fetterman had answered his questions but he is concerned that the students won't be at their peak performance after a long day of travel. Mr. Fetterman responded that the kids are pretty durable and when they

travelled to Nashville they took almost every award there. He stated that the kids are awesome and have travelled before and performed well.

Mrs. Melton commented that this is pretty common with this group as all of these ensembles travel a lot and are used to being on a bus.

A. Administration recommends approval of the revised overnight trip request from the Music Department to Orlando, Florida in March 2018 originally approved at the May 22, 2017 Board Meeting. Due to the number of participants, the Music Department will now be travelling by chartered bus rather than air which will decrease the cost from $1,400.00 to $1,200.00. As a result of the change in travel plans the Music Department will be leaving on the evening of Wednesday, March 14, 2018 rather than the morning of Thursday, March 15, 2018. Students will not miss any additional class time. Mr. Joseph Perry, 8th Grade Music Teacher and Co-Director for the Vocal Ensemble, will also be accompanying the Music Department on the trip so there will be a need for 3 days of substitute coverage for Mr. Perry. The total cost to the district for substitute coverage will now be $2,304.00.

B. Administration recommends approval of a Parent Permission and Release of Liability Waivers for a parent requesting permission to personally transport their child to and from the Music Department's trip to Orlando, Florida in March 2018 due to medical reasons.

C. Administration recommends approval of the overnight trip request for **Douglas Reigner,** House Principal, and **Ashley Bilotti,** Business Teacher and FBLA Advisor to accompany students qualifying for the Future Business Leaders of America State Competition in Hershey, PA. Students will travel by district transportation. The cost of the trip is estimated to be $400.00 per student for registration, lodging and meals. Students will miss 3 days of school and will be responsible for any missed work. The total cost to the district is for the transportation costs and substitute coverage for Ms. Bilotti. Ms. Bilotti's substitute coverage is listed under Conferences and Workshops.

D. Administration recommends approval of the overnight trip request for **Seth Jones** (High School Band Director), **Yvonne O'Dea** (High School Choral Director) and **Emily McGranahan** (High School Orchestra Director) to accompany students qualifying for the Pennsylvania Music Educator's Association All-State Convention in Lancaster, PA from April 18, 2018 through April 21, 2018. Qualifying students and directors will travel by district van. The total cost of the trip is estimated to be $375.00 per student for registration, lodging and meals. Students will miss 3 days of school and will be responsible for any missed work. The total cost to the district is for the transportation costs and substitute coverage for all three teachers. Substitute costs will be listed on the agenda under conferences once it is determined if all three teachers have students that qualify.

E. Administration acknowledges the acceptance of the donation from the Evans Elementary Home and School Association in the amount of $5,563.35 for the purchase of 13 iPads, corresponding cases and service agreements for the Ram QUEST Program at Evans Elementary School. There will be no cost to the district.

F. The following policies are submitted as a second reading for approval at next week's meeting:

1. Policy #246 – PUPILS: Student Wellness **(Attachment A6)**
2. Policy #334 – ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES: Sick Leave **(Attachment A7)**
3. Policy #534 – CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: Sick Leave **(Attachment A8)**

4. Policy #610 – FINANCES: Purchases Subject to Bid **(Attachment A9)**
5. Policy #611 – FINANCES: Purchases Budgeted **(Attachment A10)**
6. Policy # 707.1 – PROPERTY: Community Use of School Grounds and Playgrounds **(Attachment A11)**
7. Policy #707.2 – PROPERTY: Use of All-Weather Track by District Residents **(Attachment A12)**

IX. BOARD COMMENT

Mrs. Melton commented that the MCIU Legislative meeting is tomorrow night but one thing did come out today regarding Senate Bill 2, the education savings account bill and allowing folks to utilize the 529 Plan for private education. Mrs. Melton stated that PSBA sent out an action request for school districts to stand up against this. Mrs. Melton said she does not have a lot of background or information but anticipates that she will get more tomorrow. She added that she just wanted to give everyone a heads up and it is anticipated that a vote will occur in the next week or two.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he believes there are 2 bills; one which is federal and relates to 529 and Senate Bill 2 is regarding accounts that would be set up for students of low achieving districts in the bottom 15%. Mr. Dehnert stated that PSBA wants districts to come out against this but it really does not affect us because we are not in the bottom 15%.

Mr. DiBello commented that the bill is really taking one more step towards school vouchers. Mr. DiBello stated that short-term he agrees with Mr. Dehnert that it does not impact Spring-Ford but long-term depending on where school vouchers go that is where it could potentially impact us. Mr. DiBello said if you have students that are going to come into your district and bringing only a percentage of money from their existing district that percentage will not cover the full cost to educate that student. He added that if it does not cover the full student cost then who makes up the difference.

Mr. Dehnert stated that he thought the bill was regarding private schools not public schools.

Mr. DiBello replied that he is just saying that this is just one of the first steps toward school vouchers and it will be interesting to follow. Mr. DiBello said he believes the reason PSBA is saying to come out against it is because they recognize that although it does not impact a majority of the public schools from our perspective, it is just one more step towards where school vouchers are going.

X. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

There were no comments from the public.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Melton seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Mr. DiBello announced that the Board would be heading into an executive session following tonight's meeting to discuss a legal matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

On January 22, 2018 the Work Session of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:35 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

Region I:	Dr. Edward T. Dressler, Linda C. Fazzini and Bernard F. Pettit
Region II:	Dawn R. Heine, Clinton L. Jackson and Colleen Zasowski
Region III:	Mark P. Dehnert and Christina F. Melton
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 Student Representative was late: **Nandini M. Patel (arrived at 7:36 p.m.)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Taylor announced that the district is looking for a new logo to be used for RAM Watch - *formerly known as Friend Watch*. She commented that RAM Watch is designed for any student, or parent, to notify school officials of a friend who may be in need of help or may be considering self-harm. RAM Watch allows a safe and anonymous way to watch out for those friends. Taylor advised that the student-created logo should relay a sense of trust while incorporating Spring-Ford pride. Taylor reported that additional information regarding contest details and submission deadline can be found by visiting the Spring-Ford website.

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY
There were no comments from the public.

II. PRESENTATION
Dr. Patschke commented she, several staff members and students were here tonight to present on The Great Kindness Challenge which is taking place nationwide in hundreds of schools by thousands of children. Dr. Patschke stated that the students present tonight represent the Upper Providence Student Council. She added that each of the students have written a personal note to a School Board Member to thank them for all that they do. The students then presented each Board Member along with Dr. Goodin and Dr. Roche with the notes of thanks that they had written.

The Upper Providence Superheroes next identified their superhero name and spoke about how they inspire the students and staff to spread kindness. The first superhero was Captain Kindness who provided history on The Great Kindness Challenge and how the acts of kindness have grown since its inception at Upper Providence Elementary. Students came forward and spoke about why The Great Kindness Challenge is important to them, one thing that they have accomplished from the checklist and how they find value in the kindness task they accomplished. The next superhero was Gratitude Girl who expressed that she felt that The Great Kindness Challenge counter-acts all of the reports you hear about bullying. She added that this initiative encourages children to be kind to one

another which directly counteracts the negative things. Gratitude Girl spoke about how they kick-off The Great Kindness Challenge at Upper Providence with a school assembly. She spoke about the various challenges they do from year to year during this challenge. Students spoke about the Kindness Cart and how it helps them to check things off of their checklist as it contains art supplies and materials that they can use to make things for others such as cards, bookmarks, super-hero masks and many other things. Mindful Man was the next superhero to speak and he spoke about the Unity Days that occur throughout the year. He explained that the Unity Days encompass elements of teamwork which are grade level based. Students spoke about the Spirit Days that take place throughout the week during The Great Kindness Challenge such as Team Kindness Day and Kindness Rocks Day. Captain Kindness commented that at the end of The Great Kindness Challenge they like to have a celebration of all of the kind acts that they have accomplished. He added that last year they ended the week with a Pokémon dance party to celebrate the 4,983 acts of kindness they completed. This year the goal is to achieve over 5,000 acts of kindness. Mindful Man reported that this year their Kindness Unity Day focused on a book entitled “Superheroes of Service” which is based on a story of a former Upper Providence Elementary student, Katie Nesspor, who is now a senior in high school. Katie’s story of service began following the earthquakes in Haiti. He spoke of how Katie led the effort to raise money so that the author of the book could travel back to Haiti so that he could find his grandmother who he was unable to make contact with following the earthquake. Upon seeing the devastation in Haiti, Katie was moved to do what she could to help with the relief efforts such as helping in the effort to rebuild houses. Katie upon returning to the U.S. made jewelry which she sold and donated the proceeds back to the relief funds. Mindful Man reported that at the end of The Great Kindness Challenge week, students will be asked to complete a 21 +1 good deeds in addition to the 50 great kindness acts that students were asked to do. He added that all of these efforts are to show students about paying it back and that kindness matters. Dr. Patschke thanked the students for coming out tonight and being a part of the presentation.

Dr. Roche acknowledged and thanked the UPE staff, Dr. Patschke and the students for the presentation this evening.

Mrs. Zasowski stated that she thinks this is a nice thing that they are doing at Upper Providence and stated that many people do not realize the effect this can have on the other people around you. She added that she liked the checklist so she printed it out and put it on her refrigerator for her own children. She commented on one check point on the list which was smiling at other people and stated that sometimes you do not know that a smile can have a positive effect someone’s entire day. She thanked them for sharing their presentation tonight.

Mrs. Heine thanked them for trying to achieve a higher goal each and every year saying she knows that each year it gets more difficult to achieve. She stated that they did a great job of putting all of this together and she likes that it is spreading throughout the district this year with UPE being used as the model. Mrs. Heine agreed with Mrs. Zasowski saying that the checklist is amazing and a great tool to keep in mind not only this week but every day as doing the little things really does make a difference.

Mr. DiBello asked how many students there were at UPE and Dr. Patschke replied just over 430. He stated that they are averaging about 10-11 acts of kindness per student. Mr. DiBello asked if they are noticing that at this point students are just doing it without thinking about it and Dr. Patschke replied that this has changed the culture in the sense that they have always had a base of positivity but what she sees is the empowerment of

student voices. Dr. Patschke stated that not only do they coach the students on this but she would like to applaud every parent because that is where it starts and school staff just reinforce what the students are already taught in their homes. Dr. Patschke stated that she knows the students will grow up to be one of the amazing students at the high school as well as part of our community. Mr. DiBello commended them on a great presentation and added that this is why we invite our schools to come to board meetings and present on what is taking place in their buildings. He thanked them for the presentation.

A. Presentation by **Dr. Melissa Patschke**, Upper Providence Elementary School Principal, **Jessica Hauseman, Steven Mest**, Guidance Counselors, **Brian Aikens**, Teacher, **Johnny Brisson**, **Chase Fleming**, **Anne Gentilotti**, **David Judish**, **Olivia McGill**, **Arul Moorthy**, **Hali Patel**, **Keira Polinski**, **Jenna Ricketts**, **Jacob Sprague** and **John Starcevic**, Students, to present on "The Great Kindness Challenge".

Dr. Roche stated that January is School Director Recognition Month and a time where we pause to salute a group of 9 people who spend dozens of hours each month voluntarily leading our district. He spoke of the commitment they make to the district. Dr. Roche stated that Spring-Ford is very fortunate to have 9 dedicated and energetic Board Members. Dr. Roche stated that we could never thank them enough for their time, sacrifices, professionalism and commitment to the district. He asked everyone to join him in a round of applause to recognize the 2018 School Board Directors. Dr. Roche asked the students to assist him in presenting a small token of appreciation to each of the Board Members. He asked that the Board pause before opening their bags and referenced a previous Board Meeting prior to the teacher contract settlement when Mrs. Zasowski had made a comment regarding the t-shirts the teachers were wearing and that she felt that the Board should have shirts as well as they were all on the same page wanting the best for the district and the teachers. Dr. Roche invited the Board Members to open their bags and said that he hoped with this recognition that they feel the heartfelt recognition and appreciation for all they do and that everyone feels fortunate to be part of the Spring-Ford community. He asked that the Board put their new t-shirts on and have their pictures taken with the UPE students. He thanked the Board for all they do.

Mr. DiBello thanked Dr. Roche for the recognition and stated that as a School Board Member he has found that it is an interesting position but what makes it worthwhile is when there are presentations like the one tonight. Mr. DiBello commented that he is glad to be a part of the School Board and looks forward to the upcoming year as he knows there will be a lot of exciting things taking place in 2018.

B. 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

Curriculum/Technology Dawn Heine 1st Tues. 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Heine reported that the Curriculum and Technology Committee met and approved putting forth the approval of an AP 3D Studio Art Course for the 2019-2020 school year. She stated that the reason this is on the agenda early is due to the end of the course requirements and so much detail that is needed that the students will need more than a full year to put together a portfolio which will be the culmination of the class. Mrs. Heine stated that they are excited to add another AP class to the course selections for students. Mrs. Heine reported that the committee also discussed moving forward for

placement on the agenda the approval to work with the MCIU to bring a Pre-K Counts Program to the district. She advised that the only cost to the district is the use of the classroom(s) as the entire program is run by the MCIU. She added that they even go out to help to find the kids who may be in need of this type of program. Mrs. Heine added that this program will be contingent upon a grant and hopefully the MCIU will get the grant. She commented that we are looking for it to occupy 2 classrooms and the schools are to be determined. She advised that they will get more details if the grant is obtained and it is moving forward.

Mr. DiBello asked how many AP courses the district will offer with the addition of the new course that is on the agenda tonight and Mrs. Bast replied that she believes this brings us to 26. Mr. DiBello commented that this was a mission that was started back around 2009 when we were offering 11 AP courses and a goal was put in place more courses. He added that this a reason why Spring-Ford has been successful with being on the AP Honor Rolls over the last several years. Mr. DiBello stated that sitting on the IU Board the Pre-K Counts Program is something that they took over for 2 years now. Mrs. Bast confirmed that the program began in the Norristown School District and in the second year it expanded to the North Penn School District so next year it will be the start of the 3rd year. Mr. DiBello stated that it has been very successful in the other two districts and it is exciting that it is being brought to Spring-Ford.

Policy Colleen Zasowski 2nd Mon. 7:30 p.m.

Mrs. Zasowski thanked Dr. Roche for the words he said and for the t-shirt. She added that sometimes you say things and you do not know if they will make a difference but she is glad it stuck as that is how she truly feels.

Mrs. Zasowski reported that the Policy Committee met on January 17th and reviewed the PSBA Policy 103 and 104 as well as the current Spring-Ford policies on non-discrimination in school and classroom practices. Mrs. Zasowski explained that PSBA wants us to look at what we have now and make some adjustments in terms of not discriminating. The committee has some homework to do to review the policies and bring feedback back to the next meeting in February. She stated that they also spent some time on the Use of Facilities Policy which the review of this policy has been ongoing. Mrs. Zasowski advised that they reviewed the numbers provided to them by Mr. Fink, looked at the draft of the rental fee and service charges. She stated that they made the distinction between these two items and added that they have invited Mr. Fink to come to the February meeting and provide clarification on some of the numbers. Mrs. Zasowski reported that they moved a few items to a first reading on the agenda such as field trips, educational trips, and assessment of student progress. She added that they also discussed bullying and cyber bullying and Dr. Goodin shared with the Committee that he has formed an anti-bullying committee who will review the policy and provide some feedback to the Policy Committee in February or March. Mrs. Zasowski stated that they did defer the policies on public complaints, anonymous communications and child abuse to the February agenda as they spent a lot of time on the other agenda items.

Extracurricular Mark Dehnert 2nd Mon. 6:30 p.m. (alt. months)

Mr. Dehnert reported that the Extracurricular Committee met on January 17th where there were 2 presentations. The first presentation was by Ram Buddies who explained that the goal of the club is to provide opportunities for students, encourage the strengthening of social skills and a chance to establish positive peer relationships. Mr. Dehnert added that the club has activities for special needs students and gives a chance for students in the club and special needs students to interact and make friends. He added that the club has many

monthly activities which mainly includes playing various games with the mentors and buddies. Mr. Dehnert advised that the club also does plan some bigger activities such as going to a Reading Phillies game, having lunch and meeting with the football team. Mr. Dehnert reported that the second presentation was on the middle school second teams and a review of the fall/winter athletics. Mr. Dehnert commented that a lot of the discussion centered around what sports to include for second teams in 7th and 8th grade. At the meeting, Mr. McDaniel and Mr. Racich went over the numbers for the total kids who tried out for the different middle school teams with regards to how many made it and how many were cut. Mr. Dehnert reported that the perspective teams for next year would be 7th grade baseball, softball, boys' and girls' basketball, girls' soccer, and 8th grade football. Mr. Dehnert advised that the estimated cost if all of these teams were added would be around $100,000 but the major challenge would be facilities and having enough fields and gym space. The action to be taken before the next meeting is for Mr. McDaniel and Mr. Racich is for them to come back with a pilot program to get a couple teams started for the next school year to see how it goes. Mr. Dehnert commented that the committee also discussed adding extracurricular activities and the conclusion was that there was not a lot of interest from the building principals as far as what they see for adding any new extracurricular activities at the elementary level.

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

Dr. Dressler reported that the Joint Operating Committee met via a phone session on January 8th due to the bad weather. Mr. Moritzen gave his monthly report. Dr. Dressler advised that The Skills USA competition will be held in March and he provided a brief explanation on what this competition is. Dr. Dressler stated that enrollment numbers for next year show that there are 157 applicants thus far compared to 120 from this time last year. He advised that March 15th is the deadline to apply for the program. Dr. Dressler commented that the Western Center tiny house will be on display at the RV Show taking place in Harrisburg in the fall and a new tiny house will be started by students in the fall as well. He also reported that the community dinner buffet for February will take place on the 5th with the theme "Taste of New England". Dr. Dressler stated that the Western Center will also be hosting a tea on February 7th and he cautioned everyone to get their reservations as soon as possible as the dinner and tea and very popular events.

PSBA Liaison Dr. Edward Dressler

Dr. Dressler reported that PSBA had made some adjustments in their organization as they once had 15 sections throughout the state and they have now reduced that down to 8. PSBA has also initiated a Keystone Purchasing Network Program that we will be able to utilize in order to be able to get pre-bid contract offers. Dr. Dressler advised that the Spring Legal Roundup Program will be held on March 5th at Central Montco Technical High School and many important topics will be covered such as safety in youth sports, furloughs and suspensions, school meals, transgender students and charter schools. Dr. Dressler commented that the nation's annual report card on schools in the country gives our schools a grade 74.5 or a "C" grade. He added that this evaluation is done by the Education Week Research Center. Dr. Dressler stated that Pennsylvania had an average of 80.4 which equates to a B- average. Dr. Dressler commented that the U.S. Secretary of Education, Mrs. DeVos, has initiated a program called "Every Student Succeeds" and every stated must submit a plan. He added that our plan has been approved and that this program replaces the "No Child Left Behind" one. Dr. Dressler stated that some of the issues this will deal with will be how well schools are preparing students for jobs after graduation, reducing absenteeism, and reducing the amount of time spent on testing. Dr. Dressler reported that PSBA has asked all school districts to consider adopting a resolution to stop Senate Bill 2 which enhances the prospect of a

voucher system. Dr. Dressler advised the Board that he placed a sample resolution at each of their seats so they could read it over and perhaps consider adopting it or one similar to it. Dr. Dressler asked how the Board would go about adopting this resolution if they were in favor of it.

Mr. Fitzgerald recommended that nothing be done tonight so that he would have time to review it and the Board would have time to fully understand it. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that possibly they could act on it next month.

Mr. DiBello asked if this was something that the Board would be receptive to approving.

Mr. Dehnert expressed that he was not in favor of the resolution and that if it was something that they would consider then there needed to be something explaining what Senate Bill 2 was. Mr. Dehnert added that he had no issue with Senate Bill 2 as it would not affect our district. Dr. Dressler asked how it would not affect us and Mr. Dehnert explained that Senate Bill 2 is limited to those school districts that are below 15% in achievement and Spring-Ford is nowhere near that low. Mr. Dehnert stated that Spring-Ford as most other districts in the state would not have to worry about this. Dr. Dressler commented that from what he read in the PSBA notice Senate Bill 2 is legislation to establish educational savings accounts or vouchers to use at private schools or with private vendors. Dr. Dressler stated that his understanding was that it was to support a voucher program and was not sure how it did not apply to us. Mr. Dehnert brought up that it does not tell you what is in Senate Bill 2 and he read the bill which is limited to schools that are 15% or below in achievement in the state. Mr. Dehnert added that a person could take what the state portion for the education of a student and put it into an account which can be used towards paying to attend another school.

Mrs. Melton commented that from the Montgomery County Legislative Committee it was communicated that it was focused on the lowest 15% and families would have to apply for an education savings account and if approved a fund is created for them under their name with PDE. Mrs. Melton added that right now funding is looking to be around $5,700.00 per year. She stated that if a student chooses to move onto a private school then those dollars would be earmarked for that child's education. Mrs. Melton advised that this is a first step to the expansion of vouchers and will continue to build so we need to look at this. She added that while Senate Bill 2 does not directly impact Spring-Ford today, if we don't ban with other districts against this then possibly 2-3 years from this there will likely be a bill that may impact us.

Dr. Dressler asked where they go with this and what committee would be appropriate to look at this for consideration.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he is seeing that there is a general desire to bring the resolution back so he will take a look at it from a legal perspective. He advised that he will share it with Mrs. Fern and Dr. Roche to make sure it is good to go for the agenda next month and whether it is supported or not will be up to the Board.

Mr. Dehnert asked that the Board be provided with a better explanation of Senate Bill 2 so that everyone understands the bill, what the resolution is about, and knows what they are voting for or against.

Mrs. Melton stated that she has summaries that she received from the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Legislative Committee and she will share that with the Board along with some pros and cons of Senate Bill 2.

Legislative Committee Christina Melton 3rd Weds. 7:30 p.m.
Mrs. Melton reported that the Legislative Committee did not meet due to weather but a summary was sent to all committee members. She stated that a key area was the focus on Senate Bill 2 and the United States Department of Education approving Pennsylvania's plan under the Every Student Succeeds Act. Mrs. Melton noted with regards to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act at the federal level and the impact this will likely have on schools with the 529 expansion and allowance to utilize 529 funds for K-12 private schools. Mrs. Melton stated that there were some questions regarding tax loopholes and the fact that contributions to 529 accounts are tax deductible.

MCIU Thomas J. DiBello 4th Weds. 7:00 p.m.
Mr. DiBello reported that the MCIU Board will have their first meeting of the year on January 24th.

Asst. Superintendent Rpt. Dr. Allyn J. Roche
Dr. Roche announced that this Friday, January 26th, Spring-Ford has the distinct honor of hosting the District Choir Concert. He explained that the District Choir is a group of 170 students from 38 different school districts who auditioned and advanced to be a part of this group. Dr. Roche advised that Mrs. O'Dea is taking a lead role with hosting this concert with a brand new commissioned piece of music that will be a part of the concert. He added that there will be a guest conductor coming in from North Carolina. It is anticipated that there will be a large audience of over 600 but there is always room for additional attendees. The concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. this Friday night in the 10-12 Auditorium. Dr. Roche next recognized and thanked the following employees for their time, dedication and commitment to the Spring-Ford Area School District. He then wished them much happiness in their well-deserved retirement and announced each retiring staff member from this month's agenda along with the years of service to the district. Dr. Roche reported that the combined years of service for these retiring employees is 317 total years of Spring-Ford experience. He congratulated them and stated that there will be some big holes to fill.

Alison Brick - 13 years
Francine Caputo - 20 years
Bruce Cooper - 25 years
Denise Emel - 13 years
Joanne Garro - 19 years
Heidi Greenwald - 20 years
Susan Hess - 25 years
Regina Hoff - 25 years
Kathryn Pogwist - 42 years
Mary Quintrell - 39 years
Ellen Reilly - 16 years
William Racich - 40 years with the SFSD
Margaret Stackhouse - 20 years with the SFSD

Mrs. Melton advised that this Saturday the Color Guard will be hosting an event here at Spring-Ford with over 30 Color Guard Units competing. She reported that it starts at 5:00 and will more than likely be a late night due to the number of units attending. She invited everyone to come out for this great event with huge participation from students, parents and community members.

Mr. DiBello stated that Spring-Ford has an amazing staff and anytime you have someone retiring it is bittersweet as we are happy for them but sad to see them go. He spoke of

the retirement of Bruce Cooper saying that he has worked closely with Bruce over the last 8+ years. He stated that it is bittersweet as he knows Bruce has worked hard his whole life and it is time for him to sit back and enjoy. Mr. DiBello stated that the district is certainly going to miss Mr. Cooper and his dedication to the district, his dedication to the facilities and all of the capital projects that have gone on and are going on in the district. Mr. DiBello commented that he will miss conversations with Mr. Cooper and the Property Committee meetings. Mr. DiBello stated that he knows Mr. Cooper will leave the district in good hands with the people he has working with him as he has been an excellent mentor to those who work in his department and they will be able to pick the ball up and not leave the district in a negative situation.

Mrs. Zasowski spoke of Mr. Cooper's professionalism in all of the meetings he attends and stated that it has been wonderful. She added that she thinks that he is a fine example of the kindness that was spoken about earlier in the presentation. Mrs. Zasowski stated that Mr. Cooper is one of the kindest men here and she will miss him.

Mr. Cooper thanked the Board, the administration, the principals, the teachers and everyone he has walked through the buildings with. He stated that it has been great to work here and he is proud of the buildings. Mr. Cooper recognized the staff he has saying they can take over and handle it as he has tried to mentor them to the point they are at today. Mr. Cooper added that his staff is doing a great job and they all have the Spring-Ford pride in their hearts. Mr. Cooper expressed his appreciation to all and said it is hard for him to leave.

Mr. Pettit thanked Mr. Cooper and stated that it has been a great pleasure working with him and added that Mr. Cooper's dedication to the district is just incredible. Mr. Pettit thanked Mr. Cooper for his years of service.

Mrs. Heine commented that it was quite an extensive list that Dr. Roche read and she wanted to thank all of the teachers, Mr. Cooper and Mr. Racich. She stated that 317 years of experience walking out the door between now and the end of the school year is a lot of time, a lot of effort, a lot of dedication and she thanked each of the retirees for this.

Solicitor's Report **Mark Fitzgerald**

Mr. Fitzgerald reported that the federal government reopened and one of the agreements of the government reopening was with regards to the extension of the Excise Tax under the Affordable Care Act which is a very real issue for an employer like Spring-Ford. He added that the tax from healthcare plans was to be triggered in 2020 and this has been punted now an additional 2 years to 2022. Mr. Fitzgerald felt that it would be eventually removed from the law but this was a big deal today as we were within a year of the triggering language. Mr. DiBello stated that he believed it was better known as the Cadillac Tax and he agreed that hopefully it was going to work its way out.

IV. MINUTES

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-C and Mr. Pettit seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. The Board approved the November 20, 2017 Work Session minutes. **(Attachment A1)**

B. The Board approved the November 27, 2017 Board Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A2)**

C. The Board approved the December 4, 2017 Board Reorganization Meeting minutes. **(Attachment A3)**

V. PERSONNEL

Mr. Dehnert asked that Item F be separated. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve Items A-E and G and Mr. Dehnert seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

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

Mr. Dehnert asked if this position was not created then what harm would come to the district, what would happen with collecting the money, and would things fall through the cracks? Mr. Dehnert asked what the downside was saying we have been collecting this for some time now through other means so if we do not do this what would happen.

Mr. Fink explained that for the past two and one half years we have gone through a lot of analysis on the operations and the work flow throughout the district and this has come up as an item for internal control purposes mainly. He stated that there are a number of funds that flow through the buildings in various ways and having the proper checks and balances is important. Mr. Fink commented that last week Mr. Dehnert spoke about the possibility of changing a process to solve this and he advised that this position is a result of a change in process to better safeguard the assets of the district, of the activity funds and all of those areas.

Mr. Dehnert asked if internal control issues were ever mentioned on any of the audits we had and Mr. Fink replied that it was not. Mr. Dehnert observed that there were two people retiring from the business office and he questioned whether or not they should take a pause to determine how those two positions would be replaced in conjunction with adding another position to possibly rethink how we do 2 or 3 positions.

Mr. Fink explained that one of the positions leaving is that of Mrs. Quintrell who has been with the district 39 years and we applaud the years of service and the dedication she has had and has been extremely important to himself and Mrs. Davidheiser providing all of the history of the business office. The second position is that of Mrs. Mackowiak who has resigned and was the payroll specialist so this position would be filled by a payroll specialist. Mr. Fink added that Mrs. Quintrell handled things of general accounting matters, things that have to do with audits, overseeing the workflow in the department and certain payroll aspects having to do with PSERS. Mr. Fink advised that the position they are talking about now has nothing to do with these areas. He added that Spring-Ford is a $160,000,000.00 company and needs the right people in the right places to make it hum right.

The motion passed 7-2 with Mr. Dehnert and Mr. Jackson voting no.

A. **Resignations**

1. **Lori L. Blackburn;** Executive Secretary, District Office. Effective: January 12, 2018.

2. **Francine D. Caputo;** School Psychologist, Evans Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

3. **Stephanie Comptain-Bain;** Lacrosse Coach-Girls' (1/2 contract), Senior High School. Effective: January 12, 2018.

4. **Bruce Cooper;** Director of Planning, Operations and Facilities, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: April 4, 2018.

5. **Denise M. Emel;** Computer Club, 5/6th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: November 27, 2017.

6. **Denise M. Emel;** Business Education – Elementary Teacher, 5th/6th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Previously approved November 26, 2017. *Revised Effective Date: To coincide with the end of the 2017-2018 first semester.*

7. **Tyler Emel;** Audio-Visual Communications Technology, Senior High School. Effective: December 19, 2017.

8. **Zachary Fisher;** Assistant Wrestling Coach, 7th/ 8th/ 9th Grades. Effective: September 29, 2017.

9. **Joanne E. Garro;** Elementary Teacher, Limerick Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

10. **Susan S. Hess;** Media Specialist, Limerick and Spring City Elementary Schools, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

11. **Regina C. Hoff;** Elementary Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

12. **Joan E. Kenney;** Lacrosse Coach, 8th Grade Center. Effective: December 5, 2017.

13. **Rachael Munoz;** Spanish Teacher and Spanish Club Advisor, 7th Grade Center. Effective: December 5, 2017.

14. **Kathryn A. Pogwist;** Reading Specialist, Royersford Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

15. **Ellen D. Reilly;** English Teacher, Senior High School – 9th Grade, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

16. **William B. Racich;** Health & Physical Education Teacher, 8th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

17. **Margaret A. Stackhouse;** Business Teacher, Senior High School – 9th Grade, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

New Resignations

18. **Alison J. Brick;** Elementary Teacher, Oaks Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

19. **Heidi L. Greenwald;** Special Education Teacher, 5/6th Grade Center, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: The last teacher work day of the 2017-2018 school year.

20. **Donna M. Mackowiak,** Assistant Bookkeeper, District Office. Effective: February 2, 2018.

21. **Mary C. Quintrell;** Bookkeeper, District Office, for the purpose of retirement. Effective: April 3, 2018.

B. **Temporary Professional Employee**

1. **Emily M. McCallister;** Special Education Teacher, Spring-City Elementary School. Compensation has been set at MS, Step 1, $46,900.00, prorated with benefits per the Professional Agreement. Effective: January 2, 2018.

C. **Support Staff Employees**

1. **Teresa I. Bickley;** Instructional Assistant, Oaks Elementary School, replacing Dana Freas who resigned. Compensation has been set at $17.36 (degree rate), with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' plan. Effective: December 11, 2017.

2. **Monika A. Scavello;** Instructional Assistant, Upper Providence Elementary School, replacing Michelle Albanese who resigned. Compensation has been set at $17.36 (degree rate), with benefits per the Instructional Assistants' plan. Effective: January 2, 2018.

D. **Status Change**

1. **Andrew T. Rothermel;** Media Communication Assistant to Media Communication Manager, replacing Steven E. Bonetz. Salary has been set at $55,000.00, prorated with benefits. Effective: January 23, 2018.

E. **Personnel Information Item**
The individual listed below has completed three (3) years of satisfactory service as a temporary professional employee and is, therefore, approved for tenure status:

1. **Kathryn L. Ellor**

F. The Board approved the attached job description for an Accounts Receivable Specialist. **(Attachment A4)**

G. The Board approved the attached extra-curricular contracts for the 2017-2018 school year. **(Attachment A5)**

VI. FINANCE

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-G and Mr. Jackson seconded it.

Mr. Pettit expressed deep appreciation for the Home and School Associations and the Parent Teacher Associations on being so helpful in their support of the district.

The motion passed 9-0.

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. 201689 – 202233 $3,229,070.26

2. Food Service Checks
   Check No. 539 – 655 $ 141,884.68

3. Capital Reserve Checks
   Check No. 2018 - 2019 $ 92,121.72

4. General Fund, Food Service, & Capital Reserve ACHs
   ACH 171800285 - 171800442 $2,241,643.96

5. Procurement Payments
   201700120 – 201700164 $ 30,578.74

C. The following monthly Board reports were approved:

- Skyward Reports
  - General Fund Check Register
  - Food Service Check Register
  - Capital Reserve Check Register
  - ACH Check Register
  - Procurement Check Register
  - Summary Revenue Report
  - Summary Expense Report

D. The Board approved the Preliminary General Fund Budget for the 2018-2019 school year in the amount of $165,080,371.00.

E. The Board approved filing with the Department of Education the 2018-2019 referendum exceptions for Special Education Expenditures (Approximately $1,130,890.00) and Retirement Contributions (Approximately $358,800.00), for a total estimated amount of $1,489,690.00. These referendum exceptions represent approximately 1.5% and could be used for allowable millage over the Act 1 State Index cap amount of 2.4%. Exceptions are permitted due to the recognition that there are extra-ordinary district expenses above the rate of inflation.

F. 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 four assemblies for kindergarten students at Oaks Elementary entitled "Winter Secrets". Funding will be paid by the Oaks Elementary Parent Teacher Association and shall not exceed $440.00.

2. **Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy – Schwenksville, PA.** Provide three assemblies for kindergarten students at Limerick Elementary entitled "Winter Secrets". Funding will be paid by Limerick Elementary Home and School League and shall not exceed $330.00.

3. **Marion Blumenthal Lazan – Hewlett, NY.** Provide two assemblies for students in grades 5 through 7 entitled "Four Perfect Pebbles". Funding will be split between the 5th/6th Grade Home and School Association and the 7th Grade Home and School Association and shall not exceed a total of $1,880.00.

4. **Art's Alive/Robyn Burckhardt – Spring City, PA** and **Denise Romano Bright – Sellersville, PA.** Provide an Artist in Residence Program for all students at Evans Elementary to design and create a painted mural to be displayed in the upper hallway at Evans Elementary School. Funding will be paid by the Evans Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed $3,920.00.

5. **Adam Lehrhaupt – Line Lexington, PA.** Provide three 45-minute presentations for students in grades 1-4, two mini presentations for kindergarten students and a book signing for all students at Brooke Elementary. Funding will be paid by the Brooke Elementary Home and School Association and shall not exceed $1,500.00.

G. The Board approved the following independent contracts:

1. **Mobile Ed Productions, Inc. – Redford, MI.** Provide a state-of-the-art, hands-on children's "STEAM Museum" focused on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) education for students at Royersford Elementary. Funding will come from the Royersford Elementary School Assembly Budget and shall not exceed $1,195.00.

2. **Art's Alive/Robyn Burckhardt – Spring City, PA** and **Jessica Liddell – Narbeth, PA.** Provide and Artist in Residence Program for all students at Spring City Elementary to design and create a mosaic tile mural to be installed in the courtyard at Spring City Elementary School. Funding will be split between the Spring City Home and School Association ($3,050.00) and the Spring City Assembly Budget ($2,000.00) and shall not exceed a total of $5,050.00.

3. **Humanus Corporation – King of Prussia, PA.** Provide Psychological Services for special needs students who require initial psychoeducational evaluations and/or re-evaluations as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 37.5 hours per week for 20 weeks at a rate of $70.00 per hour. Funding will be paid from the Special Education Budget and shall not exceed $52,500.00.

4. **Kara Canale – Collegeville, PA.** Provide Psychological Services for special needs students who require initial psychoeducational evaluations and/or re-evaluations as per their IEPs. Services will be provided for 15 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 $12,600.00.

VII. PROPERTY

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-H and Mrs. Melton seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. The Board approved the service contract for district-wide mowing for the second year of a three-year option with Black Forest Landscaping and Snowplowing Inc., as per the RFP. The total cost for Year 2 is $1,321.00 per mowing based on an average of twenty-three mowings per year. Funding will come from the 2018-2019 General Maintenance Budget.

B. The Board approved the continuation of the contract for district-wide cleaning services for Year 3 of a three-year RFP with Interstate Maintenance Corporation of Horsham, PA. The total cost of Contract #1 is $796,588.92 beginning June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019. Contract #2 is $29.26 per hour per employee and contract #3 will be billed at $26.00 per hour per employee. Funding will come from the 2018-2019 General Maintenance Budget.

C. 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 the 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 $3,936.00. Funding will come from the 2017-2018 Maintenance Budget.

D. The Board approved a contract with WTI of Beachwood, Ohio, the lowest bidder through the State KPN process, for the replacement of the flat roof area at the 5/6 Grade Center side of the Flex Building. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve and shall not exceed a total cost of $187,093.12. The work will be completed over the summer of 2018.

E. The Board approved the purchase of new LED efficiency lighting to replace the old high sodium pressure lighting in the parking lots at Oaks Elementary School and Limerick Elementary School due to age and inefficiency. The lights will be purchased through Co-Stars Purchasing Agency. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve and shall not exceed $43,000.00. The work will be completed over the summer of 2018 by in-house staff.

F. The Board gave approval for Tyco Simplex Grinnell of Allentown, PA to upgrade and replace the fire alarm system at the 8th Grade Center for a total cost of $69,826.53 as per their quotation through the Pennsylvania State Contract #4400015469. Funding will come from the Capital Reserve. The work will be completed over the summer of 2018.

G. The Board gave approval to go out to bid and/or receive RFPs for the Maintenance Department service contracts district-wide for the 2018-2019 school year. All of these bids and RFPs will be placed on the May or June 2018 Board Agenda for approval. Funding will come from the 2018-2019 Maintenance Budget.

H. The Board gave approval to purchase a new energy efficient chiller from Trane Equipment through a US Communities Contract #15-JLP-023/12-10012-17-001, 002,003 to replace the old inefficient outdated chiller at Oaks Elementary School. The disconnection and reconnection which includes the wiring and piping will be completed by in-house staff over the summer of 2018. Funding shall be paid from the Capital Reserve Fund and shall not exceed $131,000.00.

VIII. PROGRAMMING AND CURRICULUM

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

A. The Board approved the following new courses for the 2019-2020 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 COURSE FOR SPRING-FORD SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL 2019-2020

1. **AP 3D Studio Art**

In an effort to meet the advancing needs of our students in a global world where critical thinking and problem solving skills are essential, the Art Department would like to add AP 3D Design to our current offerings. The addition of this course will enable us to offer our students the opportunity to earn college credit in the Humanities Department for students not majoring in art in college, and to earn 3D college credit in the Art Department for those pursuing an art degree. This class would enable students to develop mastery (i.e., "high quality") in concept (theme or idea), composition (elements and principles of art associated with the arrangement of artistic parts in order to achieve an effect), and execution (technical skills) of 3D design principles as they relate to art as an ongoing process.

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	$ 2,500.00	$ 0.00
Materials	$ 500.00	$ 0.00
TOTAL	$ 2,500.00	$ 0.00

B. The Board gave approval to work with The Montgomery County Intermediate Unit (MCIU) to bring a Pre K Counts Program to our School District. MCIU will seek grant funding to provide two Pre K classes to the district. This early intervention service for preschool aged children (ages 3-5) would be available for up to 40 eligible students, completely organized and implemented by the MCIU. There will be no cost to the school district as we need only to provide two classrooms for students attending the program. The MCIU has prepared the grant proposal and would seek funds on our behalf for the program to begin in the 2018-2019 school year.

IX. CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-G and Mrs. Heine 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

DISTRICT OFFICE

A. **Linda C. Fazzini,** School Board Member, to attend *"PSBA New School Director Training"* at Upper Merion Area Middle School in King of Prussia, PA on December 15, 2017. The total cost of this conference is $185.00 (registration and mileage). No substitute is needed.

B. **Carol Ganister,** PIMS and Data Specialist, to attend *"PDE Data Summit"* in Hershey, PA from March 24, 2018 through March 28, 2018. The total cost of this conference is $777.60 (mileage, lodging and meals). No substitute is needed.

C. **Dr. Allyn Roche,** Assistant Superintendent, **Elizabeth Leiss,** Director of Human Resources, and **David Krakower,** Special Education Supervisor, to attend *"Delaware Valley Education Consortium Teacher Job Fair"* at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, PA on April 4, 2018. The total cost of this job fair is $425.00 (registration). No substitutes are needed.

D. **Catherine Gardy,** K-12 Literacy Supervisor, **Wendy Taylor,** Instructional Literacy Coach K-6, and **Megan Wilmarth,** Instructional Literacy Coach 7-12, to attend *"Tackling Text and Evidence Based Writing"* at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit in Norristown, PA on January 18, 2018. The total cost of this conference is $225.00 (registration). No substitutes are needed.

E. **Rachael Fenyus,** Staff Accountant, to attend *"Elements of Leadership and Management"* in Harrisburg, PA on April 10, 2018. The total cost of this conference is $225.00 (registration and mileage). No substitute is needed.

F. **Gregory Detwiler,** Lead Ground Maintenance, to attend the *"2018 Penn State Crops Conference"* in Allentown, PA on January 18, 2018. The total cost of the conference is $20.00 (registration). No substitute is needed.

HIGH SCHOOL

G. **Douglas Reigner,** House Principal, and **Ashley Bilotti,** Business Teacher and FBLA Advisor, to attend *"Future Business Leaders of America-State Leadership Competition and Conference"* at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center from April 9, 2018 through April 11, 2018. Ms. Bilotti will attend on April 9th and 10th while Mr. Reigner will attend on April 10th and 11th and accompany those students who have advanced to the state level of competition. The total cost to attend this conference is $1,039.00 (registration, lodging including meals, and 2 days of substitute coverage for Ms. Bilotti).

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Dehnert made a motion to approve Items A-F and Mrs. Zasowski seconded it. The motion passed 9-0.

A. The Board approved the revised overnight trip request from the Music Department to Orlando, Florida in March 2018 originally approved at the May 22, 2017 Board Meeting. Due to the number of participants, the Music Department will now be travelling by chartered bus rather than air which will decrease the cost from $1,400.00 to $1,200.00. As a result of the change in travel plans the Music Department will be leaving on the evening of Wednesday, March 14, 2018 rather than the morning of Thursday, March 15, 2018. Students will not miss any additional class time. Mr. Joseph Perry, 8th Grade Music Teacher and Co-Director for the Vocal Ensemble, will also be accompanying the Music

Department on the trip so there will be a need for 3 days of substitute coverage for Mr. Perry. The total cost to the district for substitute coverage will now be $2,304.00.

B. The Board approved a Parent Permission and Release of Liability Waiver for a parent requesting permission to personally transport their child to and from the Music Department's trip to Orlando, Florida in March 2018 due to medical reasons.

C. The Board approved the overnight trip request for **Douglas Reigner,** House Principal, and **Ashley Bilotti,** Business Teacher and FBLA Advisor to accompany students qualifying for the Future Business Leaders of America State Competition in Hershey, PA. Students will travel by district transportation. The cost of the trip is estimated to be $400.00 per student for registration, lodging and meals. Students will miss 3 days of school and will be responsible for any missed work. The total cost to the district is for the transportation costs and substitute coverage for Ms. Bilotti. Ms. Bilotti's substitute coverage is listed under Conferences and Workshops.

D. The Board approved the overnight trip request for **Seth Jones** (High School Band Director), **Yvonne O'Dea** (High School Choral Director) and **Emily McGranahan** (High School Orchestra Director) to accompany students qualifying for the Pennsylvania Music Educator's Association All-State Convention in Lancaster, PA from April 18, 2018 through April 21, 2018. Qualifying students and directors will travel by district van. The total cost of the trip is estimated to be $375.00 per student for registration, lodging and meals. Students will miss 3 days of school and will be responsible for any missed work. The total cost to the district is for the transportation costs and substitute coverage for all three teachers. Substitute costs will be listed on the agenda under conferences once it is determined if all three teachers have students that qualify.

E. The Board acknowledged the acceptance of the donation from the Evans Elementary Home and School Association in the amount of $5,563.35 for the purchase of 13 iPads, corresponding cases and service agreements for the Ram QUEST Program at Evans Elementary School. There will be no cost to the district.

F. The following policies were approved:

1. Policy #246 – PUPILS: Student Wellness **(Attachment A6)**
2. Policy #334 – ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES: Sick Leave **(Attachment A7)**
3. Policy #534 – CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES: Sick Leave **(Attachment A8)**
4. Policy #610 – FINANCES: Purchases Subject to Bid **(Attachment A9)**
5. Policy #611 – FINANCES: Purchases Budgeted **(Attachment A10)**
6. Policy # 707.1 – PROPERTY: Community Use of School Grounds and Playgrounds **(Attachment A11)**
7. Policy #707.2 – PROPERTY: Use of All-Weather Track by District Residents **(Attachment A12)**

New Other Business

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

1. Policy #121 – PROGRAMS: Field Trips/Educational Trips **(Attachment A13)**
2. Policy #213 – PUPILS: Assessment of Student Progress **(Attachment A14)**

XI. BOARD COMMENT

There were no comments by the Board.

XII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

There were no comments by the public.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DiBello reported that the Board will meet in an executive session immediately following tonight's meeting to discuss a legal matter.

Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Melton seconded it. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Fern
School Board Secretary

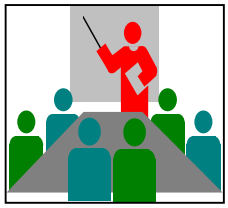
2017-2018 EXTRACURRICULAR CONTRACTS
FEBRUARY 2018

	Contract Title	Season	Last Name	First Name	Contract Rate
1	Reading Olympics – Limerick Elementary	Year	Alba	Alice V.	$402.00
2	Volunteer Boys Lacrosse Coach - HS	Spring	Baker	Charles E.	Volunteer
3	7th Gr. Club #2- (1/2 Contract)	Year	Calvin	Krista L.	$201.00
4	5/6 Club #14	Winter	Coletti	Alicia	$402.00
5	Art Enrichment - HS	Year	Culp	Amy B.	$402.00
6	Sound Production -HS (Both Fall & Spring Productions) (1/2 Contract)	Spring	Denning	Joshua C.	$735.50
7	Asst. Track Coach-Girls' & Boys'-HS	Spring	Giovagnoli	Heather L.	$4,190.55
8	Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach - HS	Spring	Heffernan, Sr.	Michael A.	Volunteer
9	Reading Olympics – Limerick Elementary	Year	Hess	Susan S.	$402.00
10	Softball Coach- (7th Grade Head)	Spring	Hoff	Daniel J.	$2,772.00
11	Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach - HS	Spring	Krause	Timothy J.	Volunteer
12	Marching Band Program Planner-HS (1/2 Contract)	Fall	Meehan	Alyssa C.	$1,813.00
13	Volunteer Girls Lacrosse Coach- HS	Spring	Mensch	Erin L.	Volunteer
14	Volunteer Girls Basketball Coach - HS	Winter	Moley	Marissa R.	Volunteer
15	Asst. Lacrosse Coach-Boys'-HS	Spring	Monzo	Daniel A.	$4,190.55
16	Volunteer Boys Lacrosse Coach - HS	Spring	Monzo	Zachary	Volunteer
17	Reading Olympics - Limerick Elementary	Year	Stringer	Jayna	$402.00
18	Set Designer -All Productions-HS (1/2 Contract)	Spring	Swartz	Heidi G.	$800.00
19	Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach - HS	Spring	Vining	Louis	Volunteer
20	Reading Olympics – Limerick Elementary	Year	Williams	Kristin K.	$402.00
21	Volunteer Assistant Middle School Boys & Girls Track Coach	Spring	Wright	Dean	Volunteer
22	Volunteer Asst. Wrestling Coach -HS	Winter	Zimmie	Brendan S.	Volunteer

2018-2019
SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
STUDENT SCHOOL CALENDAR

DRAFT

Aug 22nd	W	Staff In-Service K-12
Aug 23rd	TH	Staff In-Service K-12
Aug 24th	F	Staff In-Service K-12
Aug 27th	M	First Day of School for Students
Aug 31st	F	No School for Students & 10 Month Employees
Sept 3rd	M	Labor Day (school closed)
Sept 10th	M	No School for Students & 10 Month Employees
Sept 19th	W	No School for Students & 10 Month Employees
Oct 8th	M	Staff In-Service K-12
Nov 6th	T	Staff In-Service K-12
Nov 19th	M	Parent Conferences K-12
Nov 20th	T	Parent Conferences K-12
Nov 21st	W	No School for Students & 10 Month Employees
Nov 22nd	TH	Thanksgiving Break (school closed)
Nov 23rd	F	Thanksgiving Break (school closed)
Dec 24th	M	Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 25th	T	Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 26th	W	Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 27th	TH	Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 28th	F	Winter Break (school closed)
Dec 31st	M	Winter Break (school closed)
Jan 1st	T	Winter Break (school closed)
Jan 21st	M	Martin Luther King Day (school closed)
Feb 15th	F	Conferences/In-Service
Feb 18th	M	President's Day (school closed)
Apr 17th	W	No School for Students & 10 Month Employees
Apr 18th	TH	Spring Break (school closed)
Apr 19th	F	Spring Break (school closed)
Apr 22nd	M	Spring Break (school closed)
May 21st	T	Staff In-Service K-12
May 27th	M	Memorial Day (school closed)
June 14th	F	Tentative Last Day for Students
June 17th	M	Tentative Last Day for Teachers



Legend

No School for Students
Staff In-Service days
Add'l Emergency Days

The 2018-2019 calendar has 3 emergency days built into it in the event of school cancellations. If additional days are needed, the following days will be converted into student/teacher school days: November 19, November 20, February 15, April 17 and/or April 18.
The calendar will be revised as needed throughout the school year by the Board to reflect 180 student days and 190 teacher days.

	Student Days		**Teacher Days**	**12 month**	
	Elem	Second		22	Jul
Aug	4	4	7	23	Aug
Sept	17	17	17	20	Sep
Oct	22	22	23	23	Oct
Nov	16	16	19	22	Nov
Dec	15	15	15	21	Dec
Jan	21	21	21	23	Jan
Feb	18	18	19	20	Feb
Mar	21	21	21	21	Mar
Apr	18	18	18	22	Apr
May	21	21	22	23	May
June	10	10	11	20	Jun
	183	183	193	260	

7/18

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

8/18

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

9/18

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

10/18

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

11/18

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

12/18

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

1/19

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

2/19

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

3/19

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

4/19

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

5/19

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

6/19

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

ATTACHMENT A4

SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: FIELD TRIPS/ EDUCATIONAL TRIPS

ADOPTED: March 25, 1991

REVISED: October 26, 2015

REVIEWED: January 17, 2018

	121. FIELD TRIPS/EDUCATIONAL TRIPS
1. Purpose SC 1361	The Board recognizes that field trips/educational trips when used as a device for teaching and learning integral to the curriculum are an educationally sound and important ingredient in the instructional program of the schools. Properly planned and executed field trips/educational trips can: 1. Supplement and enrich classroom procedures by providing learning experiences in an environment outside the schools. 2. Arouse new interests among students. 3. Help students relate school experiences to the reality of the world outside of school. 4. Bring all resources of the community natural, artistic, industrial, commercial, governmental, and educational within the ambit of a student's learning experience. 5. Afford students the opportunity to study real things and real processes in their actual environment.
2. Definition	For purposes of this policy, a **field trip/educational trip** shall be defined as any journey by pupils away from the school premises, under the supervision of a teacher, which is an integral part of an approved course of study and conducted for the purpose of affording a first-hand educational experience not available in the classroom.
3. Authority	The Superintendent or designee shall approve all field trips/educational trips for Grades K-12. Board approval is required for overnight trips.
SC 517, 1361	School buses ordinarily will be used for transportation. Commercial carriers may be used for certain trips. The use of private vehicles by staff members for transporting small groups of students may be authorized, provided the driver has required liability insurance. Transportation by students and parents will not be permitted. **At the request of a parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee may approve**

ATTACHMENT A5

	parent transportation for a field trip due to a documented medical issue or other unique situation.
Pol. 210	Students on field trips remain under the supervision and responsibility of this Board and are subject to its rules and regulations. Students who receive medications while at school as a part of their individualized health care plan shall be permitted to attend school sponsored overnight and/or school sponsored foreign travel trips and accommodations will be coordinated as listed in Policy 210 – Use of Medications. The Board does not allow any staff members to take student(s) on any field/educational trip without approval of the Superintendent or designee. The Board does not endorse, support or assume responsibility in any way for any staff member of this district who takes students on trips not approved by the Board or Superintendent. Each grade in each school in grades K through 8 should have at least one (1) regular field/educational trip annually, which includes all eligible students in that grade.
4. Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent shall prepare procedures for the operation of a field trip/educational trip which shall ensure that: 1. The safety and well-being of students shall be protected at all times; with first-aid kits required on all field/educational trips; 2. Parental permission is sought and obtained before any student may be removed from a school for a field trip/educational trip; 3. The principal approves the purpose, itinerary, and duration of each proposed trip; and The principal is responsible to notify parents of parental responsibility for transportation when the approved carrier cannot meet school transportation timelines. 4. Teachers, with the approval of the principal, are allowed a considerable degree of flexibility and innovation in planning field trips/educational trips. <u>Field Trips/Educational Trips Other Than Overnight</u> The following will control all field trips/educational trips which are scheduled during normal school hours, before and beyond the school day, and/or out of state. 1. All students must have parent permission forms completed and signed.

2. Field trips/educational trips for Grades K-12 must be planned in accordance with established guidelines.

Overnight Field Trips/Educational Trips

The following will control all field trips/educational trips of more than a single day in duration that are conducted in lieu of regular school programming:

1. All students must have parent permission forms completed and signed.

2. Approval must be secured from the Board at least six (6) months prior to the scheduled dates of the trip. No request for an overnight trip will be considered unless the trip is described in detail listing a complete itinerary and the plan for financing all necessary expenses.

3. After approval, the trip sponsor or sponsors must conduct an evening meeting to which all parents of the students are to be invited. The primary purpose of the meeting will be to explain in detail the trip proposed, length of trip, cost of trip, and how the money will be raised. One (1) week after the meeting, approval of the trip by the parents will be requested in writing. If more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the parents of the children to be involved in the overnight trip reject the trip, it must be cancelled. Four (4) months prior to the overnight field trip, seventy-five percent (75%) of the students must be committed by written permission and requested deposit to participate in the trip.

4. Forty (40) days prior to the trip, eighty percent (80%) of the anticipated expenses of the trip must be accumulated or the trip must be cancelled and the money refunded. Funds acquired through fund raising projects shall be expended for other approved field trips, instructional materials, or contracted instructional services approved by the building principal and Superintendent.

5. The plan shall include explicit provisions for financing the necessary expenses of those students who would otherwise be financially unable to take part in the trip.

Specialized Field Trips/Educational Trips

Exceptions to the timelines may be made by the Superintendent for trips which result from student academic or extracurricular competition.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 517

Board Policy – 000, 103.1, 105, 113, 210, 210.1

SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT PROGRESS

ADOPTED: March 25, 1991

REVISED: April 24, 2017

REVIEWED: January 17, 2018

213. ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT PROGRESS

1. Purpose Pol. 212, 216	The Board recognizes that a system of assessing student achievement can help the student, teachers, and parents/guardians to understand and monitor the student's progress toward personal educational goals (See Pol. 212 and 216).
2. Definition	**Assessment** shall be the system of measuring and recording student progress and achievement which enables the student, parents/guardians and teachers to: 1. Determine the students' attainment of established academic standards. 2. Learn the student's strengths and weaknesses. 3. Plan an educational and vocational future for the student in the areas of the greatest potential for success. 4. Know where interventions are needed to meet the expected performance level on standards. Such assessment shall measure the student's progress on all course standards.
3. Authority SC 1531, 1532	The Board directs that the instructional program of this district include a system of assessment for all pupils which is consistent with the educational goals of the district.
4. Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent shall develop procedures for assessment which include the following: 1. Each student should know what end result and achievements are expected at the outset of any course of study. 2. Each student should be kept informed of his/her personal progress during the course of a unit of study. 3. Methods of assessment shall be appropriate to the course of study and the maturity of students, including formative and summative assessments.

ATTACHMENT A6

4. Assessment should effectively evaluate and provide feedback to students on their performance.

5. Students should be encouraged to evaluate their own achievements.

6. All reporting systems are subject to continual review and revision.

5. Guidelines

The progress report/report card is the communication to the home concerning the child's performance in school.

Elementary **–**

Spring-Ford Area School District uses a standards-based report card in grades K-4 and measures student performance on a 4-3-2-1 scale. The goal for students is to attain a "3" – consistently demonstrating mastery of grade level standards. Though some children may exceed and earn a "4", this is not the expectation with standards-based grading. The elementary standards-based report cards and progress reports use the following indicators of progress:

	Descriptor	Explanation
4	Consistently Exceeds	Demonstrates at all times, requires little to no teacher assistance
3	Consistently Demonstrates	Demonstrates at this time, requires minimal teacher assistance
2	Developing	Demonstrates progress towards mastery, requires some teacher assistance
1	Area of Concern	Demonstrates difficulty with skills, requires constant teacher assistance

Intermediate –

In grades five and six, Spring-Ford Area School District utilizes progress reports that are standards-based and sent home periodically. Quarterly reporting is done on a report card using the grading scale below.

A	90-100	Excellent
B	80-89	Good
C	70-79	Average
D	65-69	Below Average

	F Below 65 Failure **<u>Honor Roll – Recognition on a Quarterly Basis</u>** To be placed on Honor Roll, a student must earn a ninety percent (90%) or above grade point average with all grades of *A*, ninety percent (90%), or *B*, eighty percent (80%), in all major and minor subjects in the given marking period. To be placed on the Distinguished Honor Roll, a student must earn a ninety-five percent (95%) or above grade point average with all *As*, ninety percent (90%), in major subjects and must not have more than one (1) *B*, eighty percent (80%), in his/her minor subjects in a given marking period. ***<u>Middle –</u>*** In grades seven and eight, Spring-Ford Area School District use this scale and adhere to the following procedures: A 90-100 Excellent B 80-89 Good C 70-79 Average D 65-69 Below Average F Below 65 Failure **<u>Honor Roll – Recognition on a Quarterly Basis</u>** To be placed on Honor Roll, a student must earn a ninety percent (90%) or above grade point average with all grades of *A*, ninety percent (90%), or *B*, eighty percent (80%), in all major and minor subjects in the given marking period. To be placed on the Distinguished Honor Roll, a student must earn a ninety-five percent (95%) or above grade point average with all *As*, ninety percent (90%), in major subjects and must not have more than one (1) *B*, eighty percent (80%), in his/her minor subjects in a given marking period. **<u>Extracurricular Eligibility</u>** To be eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity, a student must maintain a seventy percent (70%) or above grade point average in his/her four (4) major subjects.

High School –

In grades 9-12, Spring-Ford Area School District will use this scale and adhere to the following procedures:

A	90-100	Excellent
B	80-89	Good
C	70-79	Average
D	65-69	Below average
F	Below 65	Failure

Honor Roll – Recognition on a Quarterly Basis

Each marking period, a student may earn a designation of "Honor Roll" or "Distinguished Honor Roll" on his or her report card.

To **qualify for** Honor Roll, a student must earn a ninety percent (90%) or **greater Grade Point Average (GPA) with marking period grades of** *A*, ninety **to hundred** percent (90%-**100%**), or *B*, eighty **to eighty-nine** percent (80%-**89%),** in all subjects.

To **qualify for** Distinguished Honor Roll, a student must earn a ninety-five percent (95%) or **greater GPA** with **marking period grades of** *A*, ninety **to hundred** percent (90%-**100%**), in **all** major subjects, **with no** more than one (1) *B*, eighty **to eight-nine** percent (80%-89%), in **all** minor subjects.

Weighting is not used in calculating honor roll GPA.

Senior Academic Recognition Banquet

Any senior who has earned a cumulative weighted grade point average (beginning in 9th grade) of ninety-five percent (95%) or above at the end of the third marking period of his/her senior year will be invited to the Academic Recognition Banquet.

Criteria For Weighted Grades

Advanced Placement and honors courses (grades 9-12) will receive additional grade weighting if the student achieves a seventy percent (70%) or above in the course.

Extracurricular Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity, a student must maintain a seventy percent (70%) or above grade point average in his/her four (4) major subjects.

School Code 1531, 1532 PA Code Title 22 Sec. 4.51, 4.52	

SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

857 SOUTH LEWIS ROAD, ROYERSFORD, PA 19468

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. David R. Goodin
Superintendent

Dr. Allyn J. Roche
Assistant Superintendent

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thomas J. DiBello
Board President

Dawn R. Heine
Board Vice President

Mark P. Dehnert
Region III

Dr. Edward T. Dressler, Jr.
Region I

Linda C. Fazzini
Region I

Clinton L. Jackson
Region II

Christina F. Melton
Region III

Bernard F. Pettit
Region I

Colleen Zasowski
Region II

RESOLUTION 2018-01
OPPOSING ESA VOUCHER PROGRAMS (SB 2)

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania school districts provide countless academic and extra-curricular opportunities for learning and growth of all students, preparing them for higher education and careers; and districts have continued to make steady gains in academic achievement, with Pennsylvania students consistently ranked in or near the top 10 nationally on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) exams for reading and math; and Pennsylvania has been named a national leader in providing Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education programs; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania also maintains a greater high school graduation rate and a larger percentage of students moving on to higher education than the national average; and

WHEREAS, more than 80% of Pennsylvania students enrolled in career and technical centers or programs are achieving at the competent or advanced level on industry-based skills assessments, enabling them to earn credentials leading to meaningful employment or college credit equivalencies at cooperating institutions; and

WHEREAS, public schools ensure that each student with a disability receives a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) in compliance with federal and state law and regulations, with students and their families having the benefits of a system of procedural safeguards; and

WHEREAS, Education Savings Account (ESA) voucher programs such as those under Senate Bill 2 undermine Pennsylvania's responsibility to ensure every student in every community has equal access to public education; and schools targeted under Senate Bill 2 are already in under-resourced districts; and state money for ESAs would be deducted, on a per-student basis, from a school district's basic education subsidy; and not only would school districts' state aid be sent to unaccountable private schools, but such money could also be diverted to higher education, tutoring services and other "qualified education expenses," not even ensuring students receive full-time educational instruction; and

WHEREAS, the voucher program in Senate Bill 2 benefits families regardless of income or need, including students already enrolled in private schools or never having attended a targeted public school; and voucher systems in other states have been shown to be vulnerable to financial fraud and abuse; and

WHEREAS, unlike private schools, public school districts accept, educate and protect the rights of all children who come to their doors, as opposed to those institutions that can reject applicants based on any number of factors and are not required to uphold the rights of students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, public schools are held to strict accountability standards that measure student achievement and academic progress, unlike private schools which are not required to use the same standard assessments and reporting requirements as public schools; and provisions under Senate Bill 2 would not require participating private schools to use the same standardized assessments, making comparison and evaluation of academic progress unachievable; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Spring-Ford Area School District opposes Senate Bill 2 and any other legislation or any effort by the General Assembly to implement tuition vouchers or any other program that would have an effect of a tuition voucher program, and conveys the importance of supporting and improving the quality of all public schools in the Commonwealth.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2018.

_____ _____

School Board President School Board Secretary