

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2015
7:00 p.m. District Administration Building

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Administration Building. In attendance were: Chairperson Mark P. Dehnert and Committee Member Thomas J. DiBello and Dawn Heine. Board Member Will Cromley was also present. Ryan Wall, Limerick Tax Collector was also in attendance. From the Administration were, Dr. David Goodin, Superintendent, Dr. Allyn Roche, Assistant Superintendent, Timothy Anspach, Business Manager, and Mary Davidheiser, Acting Assistant Business Manager, and Beth Leiss – Director of Human Resources were in attendance. Resident Matthew Stawecki was also in attendance.

1 Review of Minutes – April 14, 2015 minutes were accepted as presented.

Items 2,3,4 were sent home via email, but in order to focus time on the 2015/16 Budget the items were not discussed in detail. Mr. Anspach asked that if anyone had questions to please contact him and he would respond.

2. Executive Reports - Even though the April Executive Monthly Reports were sent home via email, there was no discussions in order to allow time for the 2015/16 Budget.

3. Moody's Rating of School Districts

4. Comparison of MCIU Districts

5. 2015-16 Budget Development

- Mark Dehnert opened the meeting with an analysis he had prepared on costs of expenses compared to the student numbers to arrive at a costs per student over the last 5 years. Mark expressed concern that the expenses should be more in line with the State Index rate of 1.9% or lower.
- Tom DiBello felt the numbers presented by Mark were not realistic and he did not agree with the analysis since other factors need to be considered, such as a new teacher contract, and cost of benefits like retirement and health care.
- Mr. Anspach pointed out that based on the MCIU comparison reports; Spring-Ford Area School District is one of the lowest of per student expenditures, millage, and low in many other financial areas as compared to the MCIU districts.
- Dr. Roche commented on the possible additional funding (per Wolf Administration) and that the district had submitted its rationale to PDE for the additional funding. Additional funding is contingent on school district's tax index.

- Since Mark and Tom were in disagreement, the administration was directed to present the May 2015/16 Preliminary budget at 1.9% tax increase. Tom requested a listing of all changes made to arrive at the 1.9% since the preliminary budget.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P. Dehnert