

The Spring Grove Area School Board of Directors met for its regular session on Monday, May 16, 2011. This meeting was held in the board conference room of the Educational Service Center, 100 East College Avenue, Spring Grove, PA. Mr. Douglas Stein, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed. Roll call by the Board Recording Secretary showed Mike Brookhart, Eric Cable, Mary Dolheimer, Brent Hoschar, Cindy Huber, Anne Jones, Stacy Meyer, Emily Sindlinger, and Douglas Stein present. Mr. Stein indicated one executive session was held since the last sunshine meeting, on June 2, 2011 for personnel purposes. An executive session was also held prior to the start of the evening meeting for personnel and legal purposes.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Robert Lombardo, Superintendent, introduced Ruth Benner and Nancy Daniels, Family Consumer Science instructors in the Middle School, who displayed a quilt made by 7th grade students during homeroom, which will be entered in the York Fair and later donated to the SPCA as a fundraiser for their organization.

Ruth Benner and Lyn Greco, also a Family Consumer Science instructor, passed around wheelchair walker bags to the board, made by 7th grade students. Ms. Greco invited board members and administrators to participate in an assembly on May 20th when students will give the bags, more than 1,000, to local organization representatives. Each bag, made entirely from donated materials, includes a personal note from the student who worked on the project. Recently students began a project of making bookbags, which will go to Child Aid Africa, an organization that gives to orphaned children.

George Ioannidis, Business Manager, updated board members with proposed final 2011-2012 general fund budget information, indicating that figures in the PDE 2028 form do not include the state revenue for homestead exemption, a dollar amount virtually the same as the 2010-2011 year. Each qualifying taxpayer will receive a slightly reduced credit due to a higher volume of recipients. Mr. Ioannidis also noted that should the board reconsider a repeal of the OC/PC tax, a resolution will be required. More information will be shared during the Board Treasurer's report.

Dr. Lombardo noted the Mock Trial Team did well, defeating many opponents and finishing third in Districts. He indicated the Celebrate the Arts festival held at the High School included displays of students' art work, musical entertainment by various student ensembles, and a "Marketplace" featuring local artists offering their crafts and artwork for sale. Monies raised benefit the Educational Fund and Scholarship Foundation organizations, specifically in memory of Ron Waugh, retired art teacher.

Dr. Lombardo extended special thanks to all individuals who helped during recent weeks with threats and district safety concerns. He noted the outstanding work by Chief Mark Bentzel, NYCRPD, in keeping students safe, teachers and administrators for their support, and students for their cooperation.

Dr. Lombardo introduced Zachary Smeltzer, Student Representative, and noted it was Zach's final meeting due to anticipated graduation on June 3rd. Zach is listed as a 2011 scholarship recipient. He participated in baseball and golf, Student Council, National Honor Society and the Academic Team. He plans to attend the University of South Carolina, where he will major in Sport and Entertainment Management. The board and administration extended gratitude and best wishes to Zach.

Zach updated board members on building activities and events throughout the district, which included installation of a Wellness Course on the New Salem playground following receipt of grant money. He noted a great turnout for the recent BOG event at the High School, and recognized Mrs. Schmoyer, High School counselor, for her hard work and preparation. The event raised more than \$7,000 and will go to the Scholarship Foundation. Zach thanked Dr. Lombardo and Dr. Deisley for their help during an appreciation luncheon for staff and administrators hosted by the High School Student Council, and shared his appreciation with board members for the opportunity to serve with them over the last year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Douglas Meckley, SGEA President, shared that SGEA and the Spring Grove Administration continue to hold discussions and work together to address possible cost-saving measures. As discussions conclude and consensus are reached, details will be shared with the public.

Mr. Robin Russo, Heidelberg Township, commented on having provided a suggestion during a recent meeting concerning repeal of the OC/PC tax, noting that while the board was willing to consider his suggestion, they also discussed the possibility of a time limitation, which Mr. Russo does not favor. Mr. Russo gave his opinion concerning the “tone” of a recent School Report article concerning Governor Corbett, which did not appear to be fair or accurate.

Mr. Tom Hunt, High School Mathematics teacher, stated he does not believe the proposed change to Policy #237 with regard to cell phone usage is best for students. Mr. Hunt noted that with recent internet upgrades by the technology department, access to the web through the use of cell phones by students is irrelevant. A change to policy would increase students’ opportunity for personal use of their cell phones and would place additional burden on faculty to verify that occasion for each student’s use is educational.

Nicole Riser, Business Education instructor, stated her disapproval of the recommendations to revise graduation requirements in Policy #217. Mrs. Riser shared that existing policy requires students to take the Computer Technology class at the High School, where they receive instruction in basic computer skills. Changing policy to have students fulfill only one credit requirement from approximately 40 options may result in students choosing other course alternatives. Mrs. Riser feels students would then miss out on obtaining basic and necessary skills that are offered through her course.

Ray Lawson, Heidelberg Township, submitted a written request for information to Mr. Ioannidis. He also asked for information concerning grants, AP courses, scholarships and a teacher pay freeze update.

Claire Shubert, Family Consumer Science instructor, noted her disapproval of recommended revisions to Policy #217. Mrs. Shubert shared that at the conclusion of each school year, students are asked to complete a survey of her class, and responses always indicate students’ appreciation for the course. She feels students are not always given an opportunity to obtain these skills from home and would like to continue to have Technology Education as a requirement in the school setting.

BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Dolheimer stated that as elected officials, board members have an obligation to make tough decisions concerning financial matters. Concerning the School Report publication, Ms. Dolheimer stated the district was not attempting to demonize Governor Corbett; rather, the district simply reported that the Governor’s decisions at the state level have directly impacted school districts and municipalities at the local level. Public comment which included inference to board members making decisions without regard for the community is, Mary stated, ludicrous. She encouraged members in the audience to consider service on the board at some point to gain a different perspective of the budgetary process.

Dr. Lombardo stated as a resident of Spring Grove, he does not find a lack of credibility with the board, and reminded audience members that the mission and obligation of the board and administration is to educate students. Dr. Lombardo noted that currently there are four AP courses offered at the High School. He indicated that the board and SGEA continue to work together on budgetary issues as stated earlier by Mr. Meckley, and that administrators are in the classroom teaching, noting he recently taught an Art class at the High School.

CORRESPONDENCE

Doug Stein shared a note from Linette Mansberger, Kindergarten teacher at Paradise, who thanked the board for the Books of Honor program. This program offers impending retirees the opportunity to select a book to be donated to their building library in honor of their retirement.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Cindy Huber reported a week of high activity in the legislature, including HB 1485 which shifts funds from the Department of Public Welfare, and redistributes to education; HB 1330; HB 1326; HB 815; and SB 612, which would allow districts to furlough teachers for economic reasons. SB1 continues to be a hot topic.

YORK COUNTY SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

Cindy Huber reported almost 86% of the senior class passed the occupational skills test administered in March, reflecting a 22% increase over last year. Summer school will be offered for students who failed or passed with a D, and will be open to all York County students.

YORK ADAMS ACADEMY

Anne Jones reported a meeting was held on April 26th, with all districts represented. Currently enrollment is at 85%, and Spring Grove has filled all their seats. June 14 is graduation, with this service marking the 3,000th graduate from the school. A special ceremony is being planned. Strategic planning sessions continue, with many issues being covered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Emily Sindlinger moved and Anne Jones seconded the approval of the following minutes: Regular Board Meeting, April 18, 2011, Voting Meeting, May 2, 2011, and Directors' Study Forum, May 2, 2011. Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Michael Brookhart presented the Treasurer's Report for the month ending April 30, 2011.

2. Mr. Brookhart moved and Anne Jones seconded the approval of the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Vote by roll call resulted in the motion carrying with a unanimous vote by board members in favor.

BUSINESS/FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Brookhart noted that if board members were to consider the option of repealing the Per Capita / Occupation tax during adoption of the final 2011-2012 General Fund budget at the June 6 meeting, a resolution is necessary to reflect such repeal; in addition, the board would need to amend the prior resolution as documented when the proposed budget passed, without the repeal. Mr. Brookhart requested the administration include an action on the June 6 agenda to approve the original budget as preliminarily passed. At that time, the board will take up the question of repealing the tax, which is to be indicated as an amendment. Should there be a majority vote, both a resolution for the PC/OC and an amended resolution to the final budget adoption would be necessary. Mr. Ioannidis stated that, for future millage rate increases, the setting aside of the millage increase from the Per Capita tax reduction should be considered a practice and not legislated.

3. Following a report of the Budget and Finance Committee's recommendations read by Mike Brookhart, Mr. Brookhart moved and Anne Jones seconded the following:
 - I. Approval of the Accounts Payable lists as presented.
 - II. Approval to accept Per Capita/Occupation tax exonerations from tax years' 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, and 2005 per listings from Statewide Tax Recovery, dated April 2011.

TAX YEAR	NUMBER OF EXONERATIONS	REASON FOR EXONERATION	DOLLAR AMOUNT EXONERATED
2010	23	Deceased, Elderly, Low Income, Military, Paid Prior, Non-Resident	\$632.50
2009	1	Military	\$27.50
2008	1	Non-Resident	\$27.50
2007	1	Non-Resident	\$27.50
2005	1	Elderly	\$27.50
TOTAL	27		\$742.50

- III. Approval of the attached list of budgetary transfers for the 2010-2011 fiscal year, as recommended by the Business Manager.
- IV. Approval of the appointment of Michael Brookhart as Treasurer for the Spring Grove Area School District for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.
- V. Approval to enter into the attached agreement with WellSpan Medical Group, via East Berlin Family Medicine, for the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. Services covered by this agreement include mandated student physicals @ \$10 per physical, mandated sports physicals at \$15 per physical, and medical coverage at football games @ \$150 / game.

Emily Sindlinger requested a separate vote on item V.

Vote by roll call on all items with the exception of item V resulted in the motion carrying, with a unanimous vote by board members.

Vote by roll call on item V resulted in the motion carrying with Hoschar, Brookhart, Dolheimer, Jones, Cable, Huber, Meyer and Stein voting in favor. Sindlinger abstained.

- 4. Following a report of the Building and Grounds Committee’s recommendations read by Eric Cable, Mr. Cable moved and Brent Hoschar seconded the following:
 - I. Approval, in accordance with Board Policy #707, of the following Use of Facilities request:
 - A. Wellspan Health, Todd Martin, Monument Rd, York, PA 17403.

Activity:	Speed and Agility Challenge (for York and Adams County students)
Facility:	Papermakers Stadium/Field and Restrooms.
Date(s):	Saturday, July 9, 2011.
Time(s):	8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Insurance:	On File, expires 1/01/12.
Fee:	Rental fee \$100.00 plus custodial and game manager fees.

Vote by roll call resulted in the motion carrying with a unanimous vote in favor.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

5. Following a report of the Policy Committee's recommendations read by Brent Hoschar, Mr. Hoschar moved and Anne Jones seconded the following:
 - I. Approval of a first reading for the following policies:
 - A. Policy No. 215: PUPILS, Promotion and Retention (*elimination of 215A / 215B*)
 - B. Policy No. 217: PUPILS, Graduation Requirements
 - C. Policy No. 237: PUPILS, Electronic Devices
 - II. Approval of a second reading for the following policies:
 - A. Policy No. 122.1: PROGRAMS, Athletic/Co-Curricular Eligibility Requirements
 - B. Policy No. 601: FINANCES, Objectives
 - C. Policy No. 619: FINANCES, District Audit (*new*)
 - III. Approval of the attached Code of Student Conduct to be included in 2011-2012 Student/Parent Handbooks.
 - IV. Approval of the Middle School Administration and Superintendent's recommendation that the Admission and Waiver Agreement dated May 10, 2011 be approved as documented.
 - V. Approval of the High School Administration and Superintendent's recommendation that the Admission and Waiver Agreement dated May 12, 2011 be approved as documented.
 - VI. Approval of the High School Administration and Superintendent's recommendation that the Admission and Waiver Agreement dated May 16, 2011 be approved as documented.

Mr. Brookhart requested a separate vote on item I.C.

Vote by roll call on all items, with the exception of item I.C., resulted in the motion carrying, with Huber, Jones, Cable, Brookhart, Dolheimer, Sindlinger, Hoschar and Stein voting in favor. Meyer voted against.

Vote by roll call on item I.C. resulted in the motion failing, with Dolheimer, Huber, Cable and Hoschar voting in favor. Sindlinger, Jones, Brookhart, Meyer and Stein voted against.

6. Following a report of the Personnel Committee's recommendations read by Mary Dolheimer, Ms. Dolheimer moved and Cindy Huber seconded the following:
 - I. Approval of the following resignations:
 - A. Intermediate School Cafeteria Employee – Dawn Snyder, effective May 20, 2011, due to personal reasons.
 - B. Middle School Cafeteria Monitor Aide – Sara Weaver, effective May 6, 2011, due to securing a full time position outside of the district.
 - C. High School Student Custodian – Kristofer Steed, effective May 12, 2011, due to personal reasons.
 - D. Middle School Newspaper Co-Advisor – Tanya Markley, effective May 5, 2011, due to personal reasons.

- II. Approval of the following request for Family and Medical Leave of Absence:
 - 1. High School English Instructor – Janelle Newark, beginning April 21, 2011 until approximately May 2, 2011, not to exceed the 12 week maximum as outlined under the Family and Medical Leave of Absence guidelines for restoration of health.

- III. Approval of the following appointments:
 - A. Middle School English Instructor – Shandi Silk, as a Temporary Professional, effective August 22, 2011, pending receipt of proper PA teaching certification. Compensation established at Step 1 of the Bachelor’s Schedule.

 - B. District Groundskeeper/Maintenance Support – Tyler Stiles, as a full time, employee, effective May 2, 2011. Compensation established at \$11.54 per hour.

- IV. Approval of the following professional substitute for the 2010-2011 school year at a rate of \$95.00 per day and \$110.00 per day beginning on the 21st day cumulative:
 - A. Amanda Lyons – Elementary Education

- V. Approval of the following instructors for the 2011 Summer Music Program to be used on an as-needed basis, with compensation at the approved curriculum rate, to be paid from tuition fees for this program:
 - A. Kevin Baum – Middle School Instrumental Instructor
 - B. Daniel Brenner – High School Instrumental Instructor
 - C. Timothy Bupp – Elementary Instrumental Instructor
 - D. Brian Buterbaugh – High School Instrumental Instructor
 - E. Daniel Fake – Middle School Instrumental Instructor
 - F. William Robinson – Middle School Instrumental Instructor
 - G. Kyle Showalter – High School Instrumental Instructor

Vote by roll call resulted in the motion carrying with a unanimous vote by board members in favor.

PROGRAM REPORTS:

- 7. Following a report of the Athletic & Music Committee’s recommendations read by Anne Jones, Mrs. Jones moved and Cindy Huber seconded the following:
 - I. Approval to purchase musical rearrangement services from Mr. Aaron Guidry for ensemble instrumentation for the 2011 marching band season, at a cost of \$3,000 for the music and a stipend to Mr. Guidry of \$1,200.

Mr. Brookhart motioned to table the item as presented, seconded by Emily Sindlinger. The item was tabled with Brookhart, Jones, Sindlinger, Huber, Meyer, Cable and Hoschar voting in favor. Dolheimer and Stein voted against.

- 8. Following a report of the Curriculum Committee’s recommendations read by Emily Sindlinger, Mrs. Sindlinger moved and Cindy Huber seconded the following:
 - I. Approval of the attached 2011-2012 District Assessment Plan for Classroom Teachers.

- II. Approval for Sarah Caplan and Margaret Jennings, High School teachers, to accompany graduating seniors on their senior class trip to Six Flags America, Largo, MD, on June 1, 2011. Additional chaperones will accompany the group at a ratio of one teacher/chaperone per every ten students.

- III. Approval for Daniel Brenner, Brian Buterbaugh, and Kyle Showalter, High School Music teachers, to accompany students enrolled in High School Music Department ensembles, to Cleveland and Sandusky, Ohio, April 4-7, 2012.

Vote by roll call on items presented resulted in the motion carrying with a unanimous vote by board members.

Mr. Brookhart requested the administration revisit recommendations to amend Policy #237 and bring back to the board for discussion at the June 6 Directors' Study meeting.

Eric Cable moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM. Brookhart seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

George W. Ioannidis
Business Manager/Board Secretary