

TO: Board of School Directors

FROM: George W. Ioannidis, Business Manager/Board Secretary

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes – Directors’ Study Forum

DATE OF MEETING/ TIME: October 1, 2012
7:03 PM

LOCATION: Educational Service Center

PARTICIPANTS: School Board: Michael Brookhart, Eric Cable, Brent Hoschar,
Cindy Huber, Stacy Meyer, Emily Sindlinger
Douglas Stein, Douglas White

District: Karyn Brown, George Ioannidis,
Robert Lombardo, David Renaut

Absent: David Trettel

The Directors’ Study Forum meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring Grove Area School District was called to order at 7:03 PM by Douglas Stein, Board President. Mr. Stein noted eight Board members remained present from the voting meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mrs. Sindlinger introduced Mr. David Detzel, Director of York Adams Academy, who shared a Fact Sheet with board members and made a brief presentation of the YAA program. Mr. Detzel thanked the board for their support of the program. Dr. Lombardo recognized the benefit and support of the YAA program to Spring Grove students.

Mrs. Annette Julius, Principal, presented statistics and data following the 2012 Summer Pre-K Program at Paradise Elementary, and shared a handout listing details. Mrs. Julius noted the program was very similar to the previous year, and noted trends in benchmark assessment data for years 2010 through 2012. Of those 48 students served in the program this year, several tested above the benchmark to be considered for the extended day kindergarten class, which evidences the success of the program.

Mrs. Sindlinger presented a request for Brian Hastings to attend the PA Science Teacher’s Convention in Hershey, PA, in November 2012, as a presenter. AquaPhoenix Scientific, Inc. has agreed to pay the registration, room, and material fees for Mr. Hasting’s attendance as well as the cost of the substitute teacher. Dr. Lombardo indicated that Brian has taken a leadership role with his involvement in state and national science competitions. The board will consider approval of the overnight workshop at the October 15 voting meeting.

Mrs. Sindlinger presented three major trip proposals for discussion: Choir Trip to Broadway, NY in January, 2013; Music in the Parks, MD in May 2013; and the Student Launch Initiative in AL, in April, 2013. Mr. Renaut noted the success of Spring Grove’s Science program is becoming known as “Spring Grove’s Thing” among York county school districts. Board approval will be requested at the October 15 meeting for each of the three proposals.

BUSINESS/FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Cable introduced Celeste Barnes, High School Science Teacher, and class seniors, Christiana Nehmsmann and Jessica McKenzie, who presented ideas surrounding the development and installation of a Commemorative Memorial Garden at the High School. Jessica noted the garden would honor those Spring Grove alumni who gave their lives in service to country and community: military, police, and firefighters. Christiana indicated wanting to do something so people remember the class of 2013. Mrs. Barnes stated the intent is to go back as far as the Vietnam era for inclusion of alumni in the memorial, and thanked Lisa Smith for her assistance and support in making contacts during the planning stages. The project and maintenance will include the work of senior students in the Environmental II classes. Board members supported the idea of the project, to be funded through community and alumni donations.

In light of the announcement of Paradise Elementary as a National Blue Ribbon School, the administration requested board consent to erect a semi-permanent sign in front of the school. Mr. Cable presented details concerning the signage for review. The board supports the sign being erected. The approximate cost of \$800 is to be covered by Spring Grove Area Scholarship Foundation and/or Spring Grove Area Education Fund.

Dr. Lombardo reported that, as part of ongoing capital projects discussions, the buildings and grounds committee and members of administration are joining Mark Czapp for a walk-through of the Intermediate and New Salem Elementary facilities. Board members are invited and, if interested, are to meet on Saturday, November 3rd at 7 AM, at the Intermediate School. A light breakfast will be provided.

Mr. Ioannidis presented spreadsheets outlining a ten-year projection of student enrollment, which reflects an increase of 467 students from the current year to 2021-22. The administration has prepared a Request for Proposal document to solicit proposals and engage a firm to conduct a demographic study. Such a study will update data and assist in upcoming decisions related to district facilities. The study includes consultation with local municipalities. Interviews of qualified firms are planned for January 2013, with recommendation to the board tentatively planned for February / March.

Mr. Ioannidis presented a final listing of 2011-12 budgetary transfers for review and discussion. The board will consider approval of the listing at the October 15 voting meeting.

Mr. Brookhart presented the Pulsera Project for consideration as an approved 2012-13 Fund Raising Organization. The board will consider approval at the October 15, 2012 meeting.

Mr. Ioannidis shared a presentation of preliminary budget information for 2013-2014, which included a recap of fiscal years 2011-12 and 2012-13, and informational item projections for consideration in 2013-14 and beyond. When compared to other York County school districts, Spring Grove was at the midrange for tax millage rates, and on the lower end when comparing equalized mills and school tax ratios. The present budget projects an ending general fund balance of just over \$9 million; however, many variables will have an impact on that balance in upcoming years. The board will discuss 2013-14 budget parameters, fund balance management and the Act 1 Index Resolution at the November discussion meeting. The administration will compile a listing of programs for review during a future meeting.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Brent Hoschar presented proposed revisions to policies #610 and #611 for review and discussion. Mr. Ioannidis noted a recent change in the law prompted the revisions indicated. Additionally, proposed language is further defining the bidding process. The board will consider approval of a first reading for both policies at the October 15 voting meeting.

Mr. Hoschar presented the 2012-2013 Education Fund Annual Plan for review. The board will consider board approval of the presented plan at the October 15 voting meeting.

Dr. Lombardo requested the board give consent to advertise for a part-time Special Education Secretarial Support position. The Superintendent noted clerical support is needed for Michelle Ludwig, who assumed additional responsibilities district wide following Sharon O'Connell's retirement in June from the elementary level position. Board members granted consent to advertise for the half-time clerical position.

PLANNING

Mrs. Sindlinger indicated a conflict with Monday board meeting dates from January – May 2013. Mr. Cable proposed consideration of an alternate day for meetings to accommodate Emily's schedule, with a return to Monday meetings in June 2013. Board members will email the Superintendent's office indicating those weekdays that present a conflict, before the next board packet delivery on Monday, October 8. Friday will not be an option. Discussion of an alternate weeknight for meetings will continue at the next meeting.

Mr. Stein reminded board members of an executive session for personnel following adjournment of the study meeting.

Sindlinger motioned for adjournment at 8:36 PM. Huber seconded the motion, unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

George W. Ioannidis
Business Manager / Board Secretary