

TO: Board of School Directors

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

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes – Directors’ Study Forum

DATE OF MEETING/ TIME: September 9, 2013  
7:13 PM

LOCATION: Educational Service Center

PARTICIPANTS:

School Board: Brent Hoschar, Cindy Huber,  
Stacy Meyer, Emily Sindlinger, Todd Staub,  
Douglas Stein, David Trettel, Douglas White

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

Absent: Eric Cable

The Directors’ Study Forum of the Spring Grove Area School District Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:13 PM by Mr. Douglas Stein, President. Mr. Stein noted that eight Board members remained present from the voting meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

George Ioannidis, Business Manager, presented the proposed agreement of sale between Spring Grove Area School District and RRA Properties, LLC and River Rock Academy, Inc., for the purchase of the former Spring Grove Elementary Center. Ioannidis explained that established tuition for student slots will remain unchanged, and he is working with the solicitor to finalize information before forwarding to the county judge. Utilities will be switched over to River Rock, and they have asked for consideration in continuing to provide light maintenance and custodial support (such as snow removal), at a billable rate agreed upon by both parties. The District will continue to provide food services to River Rock. The board will consider approval of the agreement at the September 23 meeting.

Ioannidis presented a listing of obsolete / surplus items for consideration of disposal. White asked the administration to consider giving the mobile phones to ACCESS York for reuse in 911 calls. The administration will make contact with ACCESS to determine their interest, and follow up with the board at the September 23 meeting, when the list is presented for approval.

Ioannidis presented the 2012-2013 yearend budgetary transfers for review and discussion. The board will consider approval of the transfers at the September 23 meeting.

Ioannidis presented the 2014-2015 Proposed Budget Timeline for review and discussion, noting the released preliminary base index is at 2.1%. PDE will finalize this figure. Key dates to note, which are tentative, include the following: February 17, adoption of preliminary budget; April 7, adoption of proposed final budget; May 19, adoption of final budget. The board will consider approval of the timeline at the September 23 meeting.

Doug White presented the High School rear steps for discussion. White indicated neither Music Boosters nor Athletic Boosters are currently interested in partnering with the district to fund the project. Board consensus was to put the project on hold until support is definitive.

Dr. Lombardo scheduled a board walkthrough of district facilities for October 19, 2013, as done in the past. The meeting time will be 7 AM, at the Technology Center, with tentative stops at Windy Hill, the tennis courts, and the High School.

### **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Brent Hoschar presented slight revisions to Policy 605, Tax Levy, for review and discussion. The board will consider approval of a first reading at the September 23 meeting.

Ioannidis presented PSBA officer candidates and explained the new election process, which authorizes the board secretary to go online and cast ballot(s) on behalf of the board following formal approval of their selections. The board will consider approval of their candidates at the September 23 voting meeting.

Dr. Lombardo shared details surrounding the administration's recommendation to hire a Neurological Support Classroom Aide. Karyn Brown, Director of Pupil Services, noted receiving positive feedback on the program from parents and staff, and indicated help is needed because more students are coming into the classroom. Ioannidis estimated a \$25,000 increase to fill this full time position, and the board authorized the posting.

### **PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

The Superintendent shared that according to the guidelines of PA School Code, every youngster enrolled in the public school setting has an option to receive one hour of religious instruction per week, when provided, at no cost to the district. Students at Spring Grove Intermediate are currently involved in a Religious Release program offered through a local church, which transports interested students to and from the program (with written permission from parent). Students are responsible to make up any work and assignments missed.

Dr. Renaut, Assistant Superintendent, shared a PowerPoint updating board members to changes in Act 82 and the new Educator Effectiveness System developed by PDE. Dr. Renaut complimented the committee, comprised of administrators and teachers, responsible for research and groundwork associated with rolling out the new framework internally. The SPP score, which replaces AYP and makes up a large component of the teacher effectiveness score, will be released from PDE in the next few weeks. Administrators are optimistic of the impending rating. Dr. Lombardo noted this process places additional burden on administrators and complimented them for their compliance and enthusiasm in moving forward.

Dr. Renaut continued with an overview of the changes that will result from the US State Department of Education's Waiver to No Child Left Behind legislation, granted to PA in August of 2013. Renaut categorized this as a landmark piece of legislation and referred board members to a handout of "FAQ's". Every District school met AYP this past school year, which comes to a close with implementation of this waiver. Students will see an increase in the rigor of meeting expectations as a result of the new system.

Emily Sindlinger presented three Major Trip Proposals for consideration: Introduction to Broadway/Choir Trip to NYC – January 29, 2014; Leadership Experience and Development (LEAD) 2014 Conference – January 31-February 2, 2014; Science Olympiad State Competition – May 1-2, 2014. The board will consider approval of the three trip requests at the September 23 voting meeting.

Dr. Lombardo noted an item for discussion at the October DSF will be the District attendance policy, specifically to address student absences due to participation in outside events. Dr. Lombardo also thanked Dr. Renaut for a great job with his presentations.

Doug White requested an explanation regarding procedure when students at the High School cannot pay for lunch. Dr. Lombardo indicated elementary and middle level students are not denied lunch when they do not have money; however, high school students are encouraged to be responsible and check their balances so they have the required amount to buy lunch.

Doug Stein reminded board members of an executive session for personnel following adjournment.

Sindlinger made a motion to adjourn at 8:38 PM. Huber seconded the motion, unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

George W. Ioannidis  
Business Manager / Board Secretary