

TO: Board of School Directors

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

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes – Directors’ Study Forum

DATE OF MEETING/ April 3, 2013
TIME: 7:06 PM

LOCATION: Educational Service Center

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

District: George Ioannidis, Robert Lombardo, David Renaut

Absent: Karyn Brown

The Directors’ Study Forum, of the Spring Grove Area School District Board of School Directors, was called to order at 7:06 PM by Mr. Douglas Stein, President. Mr. Stein noted that nine Board members remained present from the voting meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Emily Sindlinger presented a Proposal for Major Trip to Germany for 2014, for discussion. Deanna Thatcher, Foreign Language instructor, shared details of the German-American Partnership Program, and the proposed trip’s itinerary with board members. Following discussion concerning fundraising efforts to lessen costs for chaperones, board consensus was to consider approval of the trip at the April 17 voting meeting.

Sindlinger presented a second Proposal for Major Trip to visit the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., on May 10, 2013. Costs for the trip will be paid completely by fundraising. The board will consider approval of the trip at the April 17 voting meeting.

Dr. Renaut presented a memo outlining new/revised English Language Arts (previously Communication Arts) and Mathematics curriculum, grades K-6, for review and discussion. Changes proposed are in preparation for anticipated new PSSA assessments. New criteria is expected to take effect in July 2013. Board members will review the information and sit under a formal presentation by teachers who wrote the curriculum during the May DSF. The board is expected to consider approval at the May voting meeting.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Ioannidis presented the 2013-2014 general fund budget for review and discussion. He reviewed current 2012-13 fiscal year fund balance projections, as well as proposed reductions to expenditures and estimated revenues for 2013-14. Dr. Lombardo noted the painful consequences associated with 35 professional/administrative staff reductions. Board members discussed the viability of community program offerings for students that are currently duplicated through district programs, as a consideration for future reduction measures. After lengthy discussion, board members directed Ioannidis to include a

net millage rate increase of 2.1%, the allowable Index amount, in the proposed final budget. The board will consider approval of the proposed final budget at April 17 voting meeting.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Todd Staub raised the May 15 regular board meeting date for discussion, requesting consideration of moving the meeting to Monday, May 20. Ioannidis noted a change from the existing May 15 date is necessary in order to meet the mandated 30-day requirement for the proposed final budget to be available for public review. Following brief discussion, the April 17 voting meeting will include a recommendation for board meetings to resume to Mondays, beginning with a change from May 15 to May 20, and the Proposed Budget Notice and Resolution requiring approval will include the revised date.

Brent Hoschar presented an overview of 2013-14 Federal, State and other Programs/Grants available for district application, review and discussion. Board action is required and will be requested at the April voting meeting, to approve the Superintendent and/or his designees to enter into agreements for participation in those programs listed.

Ioannidis presented information concerning four existing bequests to the school district to support annual scholarships for Spring Grove graduates. Ioannidis has approached Spring Grove Area Scholarship Foundation (SGASF), who is receptive to considering acceptance of these funds for administration of the scholarships, with the understanding the integrity of the scholarship naming would not change. The board will consider approval at the April 17 voting meeting.

Stein noted the 2013-14 Student Code of Conduct and Policy #204, Attendance, as two future discussion items by the board and indicated there would be an executive session for personnel following adjournment of the meeting.

Cable moved for adjournment at 8:39 PM. The motion, seconded by Huber, was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

George W. Ioannidis
Business Manager / Board Secretary