

TO: Board of School Directors

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

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes – Directors’ Study Forum

DATE OF MEETING/ November 6, 2017
TIME: 7:03 PM

LOCATION: Educational Service Center

PARTICIPANTS:

School Board: Karen Baum, Eric Cable, Brent Hoschar,
Cindy Huber, Stacy Meyer, Todd Staub,
Douglas Stein, Dave Trettel, Doug White

District: Karyn Brown, Mary Beth Grove,
George Ioannidis, David Renaut

Absent:

Cindy Huber, Board President, called to order the Directors’ Study Forum meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring Grove Area School District on Monday, November 6, 2017, at 7:03 PM. Huber noted that nine Board members remained present from the voting meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

BUSINESS/FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dr. Renaut introduced Dr. Wayne McCullough, PASBO Director of Leadership and Development, to share an overview of the continuing increases to school district contributions to the pension system. Dr. McCullough noted the increases are necessary after years of underfunding and deficient contribution rates, leaving the State with no recourse but to increase the districts’ annual contribution rates. McCullough recognized George Ioannidis and the School Board for good financial planning that has strategically positioned the district to “weather the storm.” Renaut thanked McCullough for coming.

George Ioannidis presented information regarding the development of the proposed 2018-2019 budget. The official Base Index for 2018-2019 is 2.4%, with the District’s Enhanced Index set at 3.0%. Discussion included a review of 2016-17 data, 2018-19 parameters, fund balance management, factors that influence the proposed budget, and recommendation to adopt the Resolution to stay within the Act 1 Index. The Board will consider adoption of the Resolution at the November Voting Meeting.

Ioannidis stated that the local 2016-2017 final audit report is nearing completion and a copy of the report will be shared at the November voting meeting, with recommendation to accept the report requested at the December Reorganization Meeting.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dr. Renaut thanked Dr. Mary Beth Grove, Assistant Superintendent, for her leadership in planning and preparing for review of the new and revised courses proposed for the 2018-2019 school year. Grove introduced Dr. Cugliari and High School teachers to present a brief description of proposed courses. Natalie Lamparter presented a summary on Digital Art Design and Digital Art and Painting. Steve Richards presented information on Advanced Journalism II. Abbie Sechrist presented a summary of Panorama of German Culture and Spanish Cultural Perspectives. Derrick Henning presented information on Introduction to Computer Programming, an Apple course. Josh Richard introduced a summary of the

proposed Robotics 1 course, which will provide design opportunities for students to build a robot and be introduced to coding and programming, which Dr. Renaut noted to be a global curricular move. Dr. Cugliari closed by sharing a summary of Algebra I-A (preps for PSSA) and I-B (HS/9th graders) proposed courses. The Board will consider approval of the courses at the November 20, 2017, regular voting meeting.

Dr. Grove shared a presentation highlighting individual building results of the 2017 Pennsylvania System of School Assessments for English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science, and Keystone Exam results for Algebra, Literature, and Biology. Grove also presented information on the PA School Performance Profile (SPP), which provides an Academic Performance Score for the achievement and growth for each of the schools.

Karyn Brown, Director of Pupil Services, shared an overview of steps necessary for the District to take back the Autism Program currently provided by the Lincoln Intermediate Unit #12 in our own buildings. Brown noted the District is in a good position to make the change due to increasing enrollment of Spring Grove students. She presented a summary of projected cost savings. Following brief discussion and consensus by a majority of the Board, Brown will notify the LIU of the District's intentions prior to March 31, 2018. No action is required to approve the program change; however, a job description to add the required Instructional Advisor position is planned for the Board's consideration at a future meeting, and Brent Hoschar encouraged members' support of the proposal.

Hoschar presented seven Major Trip Proposals for consideration. Following review of the proposals, the Board will consider approval at the November 20, 2017, regular voting meeting.

David Trettel presented for consideration a request for the Girls' Basketball Team to travel to State College, PA. The Board will consider approval of the trip at the November 20, 2017, regular voting meeting.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORTS

Stacy Meyer presented the proposed 2018 Board Meeting Calendar for consideration. Dr. Renaut noted differences from prior years in order to retain a two-week span between meetings. The Board will consider approval at the November 20, 2017, regular voting meeting.

Meyer presented Policy No. 138, Policy No. 150, and Policy No. 918, for review and discussion. Dr. Michael Holtzapple, Federal Programs Coordinator, noted this year as a monitoring year for the Title I Program, and he presented a summary supporting the changes recommended. The Board will consider approval of a first reading at the November 20, 2017, regular voting meeting.

Doug Stein presented a memo concerning proposed personnel actions for the November 20, 2017, regular voting meeting. The Board will consider approval of the proposed actions at that meeting.

FUTURE PLANNING

Dr. Renaut reminded Board members of upcoming Health Care Committee meetings scheduled for the Middle School. Huber reminded Board and audience members to get out and vote tomorrow, November 6. She also reminded members of the next regular voting meeting on November 20 at the ESC.

Meyer moved for adjournment at 9:11 PM. Trettel seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

George W. Ioannidis
Business Manager / Board Secretary