



MINUTES
SPRING GROVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
DIRECTORS' STUDY FORUM MEETING

DATE/TIME of MEETING: November 9, 2020 @ 7:18 PM

LOCATION of MEETING: SPRING GROVE AREA EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
100 EAST COLLEGE AVENUE, SPRING GROVE, PA 17362
VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION OPTIONAL VIA ZOOM WEBINAR

ATTENDANCE: **The following School Directors were in attendance:**
Karen Baum, Maurice Gaskins, Brent Hoschar, Cindy Huber,
Todd Staub, Doug Stein, Dave Trettel, Doug White (*Zoom*)

The following School Directors were absent:
Rachel Rohrbaugh

The following Spring Grove Area School District Administrators were in attendance:
Dr. George W. Ioannidis, Superintendent
Dr. Mary Beth Grove, Assistant Superintendent (*Zoom*)
Mr. Mark Czapp, Director of Business Operations (*Zoom*)
Ms. Karyn Brown, Director of Pupil Services (*Zoom*)

A Directors' Study meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring Grove Area School District was held on Monday, November 9, 2020, following adjournment of the voting meeting. Cindy Huber, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:18 PM, noting the same Board members in attendance from the earlier voting meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
There was no public comment.

BOARD OR ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSE:
n/a

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Curriculum

Hoschar introduced Dr. Grove, Assistant Superintendent, and Dr. Dietrich, High School Principal, who presented eight new courses with descriptions and background, along with revisions to one course, for review and consideration of implementation at the start of the 2021-2022 school year. Following review, consensus of the board was to consider approval of the proposed new/revised courses at the November regular voting meeting.

Dr. Grove and Dr. Guadagnino, Middle School Principal, presented an overview of the Comprehensive Plan process. As a Phase 3 school district, the District is required to submit an updated Comprehensive Plan by November 30, 2021. The plan will be implemented for three years, beginning July 1, 2022, and ending on June 30, 2025. The Special Education Plan, a component of the overall plan, is due by May 1, 2021. The District will solicit contributions and input from various stakeholder groups. The plan includes creation and appointment of an oversight committee. Grove asked for interested board members to serve. Gaskins, Stein, Baum and Hoschar responded. An updated timeline for preliminary review and acceptance by the board and submission to PDE will be shared during a future meeting as details become available from the state.

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Athletics and Music

Ioannidis presented an update to the winter sports season, including workout and competition limitations and spectator capacities. He noted that as recently as last week, PIAA issued guidance to districts, leagues, and members schools, and the District is in the process of assessing those guidelines and waiting for direction regarding scheduling contests.

With regard to youth clubs' usage of District facilities, the District will continue to monitor usage on a case-by-case basis, evaluating each organization's ability to maintain adherence to the District's Health and Safety Plans. Consideration will also be given to avoiding a negative impact on school operations, including additional costs that may arise for staffing necessary custodians and purchasing disinfectant materials/supplies.

Greg Wagner, Student Athletic Coordinator, presented a summary of the Fall Sports season, noting that as a result of the performance and potential seen in this year's team athletes, he is looking forward to even more accomplishments next year.

BUSINESS/FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Buildings and Grounds

Ioannidis shared a presentation concerning the former middle school building. The current plan calls for the development of the facility into a community center that would house a YMCA facility, Windy Hill, the Spring Grove Regional Parks and Recreation Center, and still have remaining space available for use by other community-related organizations. The school district will be considered an occupant, for the current Technology Center. Ioannidis noted it is unlikely that the District would need to repurpose the building as an educational facility. Ongoing maintenance costs are cost-prohibitive to retain the site in its current condition or to consider partial demolition. A Peer-to-Peer study is currently underway to provide support for securing grant funds from the State. Next steps include consideration of the legal process to execute the proposed plan, monitor developments at the state level for funding, consider a capital campaign, and review other options as alternatives.

Budget and Finance

Mark Czapp, Director of Business Operations, shared a proposal outlining a refinancing opportunity available to the District that would yield interest savings of up to 3.42% of refunded principal and still maintain financial flexibility. Chris Gibbons, Concord Public Finance, shared details, including the inclusion of taxable and tax-exempt notes, and a potential savings estimated at approximately \$1.2 million. Next steps include the board's consideration of approving a Parameters Resolution to be included with November voting meeting agenda items.

Transportation

Czapp reported that the District will be sending out a Request for Proposals to contract pupil transportation services beginning July 1, 2021. With the conclusion of the current agreement with Red Lion Bus, the District is looking to secure an agreement for the 2021-22 school year and beyond. A recommended agreement will be shared with board members for consideration of acceptance as soon as proposals are received and reviewed.

Czapp shared updated information regarding the proposed 2021-2022 general fund budget, noting updates to last year's figures following the conclusion of the 2019-2020 year-end audit. Czapp reviewed parameters for building the ensuing year's budget, including increases in projected salaries, PSERS rates, benefits, and transportation services. The board will be asked to consider adoption of a resolution not to exceed the District's Enhanced Act 1 Index of 3.7% at the November regular voting meeting. District Technology Coordinator, Chris Enck, concluded the presentation by sharing an overview of the Technology Five Year Plan.

Czapp presented proposed 2019-2020 final budgetary transfers for the board's consideration and review. The transfers as presented will be considered for approval at the November voting meeting.

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Czapp referenced a 451-page inventory of High School IAC books, including titles and authors, for consideration of the board's approval to dispose/repurpose in accordance with Policy #706.1. Following brief discussion, the Board will consider approval at the November voting meeting.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Policy

Czapp noted that Dave Trettel's existing three-year term as York County School of Technology Operating Committee representative will expire December 31, 2020. Trettel confirmed his interest in maintaining the seat, and Cindy Huber agreed to continue as alternate. The reappointment action will be included on the November 23rd voting meeting agenda.

Personnel

Stein presented a memorandum proposing personnel action items for consideration of approval at the November 23rd voting meeting.

FUTURE PLANNING ITEMS:

ADJOURNMENT: Baum moved for adjournment at 9:19 PM. Trettel seconded. The meeting adjourned by unanimous voice vote.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

Mark A. Czapp,
Director of Business Operations/Board Secretary