

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

DATE/TIME of MEETING: June 26, 2023 @ 7:27 PM

LOCATION of MEETING: SPRING GROVE AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL
244 OLD HANOVER ROAD, SPRING GROVE, PA

ATTENDANCE: **The following School Directors were in attendance:**
Karen Baum, Rachel Rohrbaugh, Rodney Shearer, Doug Stein, Dave Trettel,
Doug White, Nicole Wilson

The following School Directors were absent:
Ben Ramsay, Michael Ritz

The following Spring Grove Area School District Administrators were in attendance:
Dr. George W. Ioannidis, Superintendent
Dr. Steve Guadagnino, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Mark Czapp, Director of Business Operations/Board Secretary (*via Zoom*)
Dr. Michelle Ludwig, Director of Pupil Services

A directors' study meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring Grove Area School District was held on Monday, June 26, 2023, in the LGI Room #242 of Spring Grove Area Middle School, 244 Old Hanover Road, Spring Grove, following adjournment of the voting meeting. Rachel Rohrbaugh, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:27 PM noting the same seven board members in attendance from the earlier meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE REPORTS

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Mark Czapp introduced Chris Gibbons, Concord Public Finance, to present a proposed Reimbursement Resolution, Financial Schedule, and comparison of Existing Debt Service vs. Restructured Debt Service with current rates, for review. As the Board moves forward with capital projects, Gibbons presented future borrowing options and reported that adoption of a Resolution would preserve the opportunity for the district to reimburse itself for expenditures related to the projects and incurred prior to the completion of any bond issuance or bank loan. Gibbons noted there is no action required by the Board at present. Ioannidis stated that funds in Capital Reserve could be used to help cover costs of upcoming projects; but traditionally, Capital Reserve has been earmarked for items listed on the building maintenance schedule that is updated annually and provided to board members during the Capital Projects Tour. Those listed projects are available on the Board's webpage. Neighboring districts' Capital Reserve balances, if available, may be shared at a future meeting.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Ioannidis presented a proposed Regional Recreation Services Agreement between the District/Spring Grove Borough/Paradise and Jackson Townships and the YMCA of the Roses for review. The document provides for continuation of what had previously been the partnership agreement among the municipalities and the Spring Grove Area Regional Parks and Recreation Center (SGRPRC). Ioannidis indicated that there is no cost to the district to be a partner. Betty Stein, SGRPRC representative, shared examples of in-kind services provided by the district to students that are part of the center's before/after school care program. The Board will consider approval of the agreement at the July or August voting meeting. Mrs. Stein also suggested that the Board appoint an alternate representative to serve as district representative moving forward, since serving as SGRPRC representative may be considered a conflict of interest.

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Bill Stiles presented a summary of items reviewed during the June 21st Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting, highlighting changes in potential sites for the maintenance facility. Aerial surveys providing more detailed topography of the three newly-considered site locations are tentatively scheduled the next week, weather permitting. Ioannidis stated that over recent years, previous board members have continued to review the schedule of capital projects, including the maintenance facility, in addition to discussing the possibility of borrowing funds to cover costs for the projects. Minutes of the committee meeting were provided.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICY

At the June 12th meeting, a rough draft of the Code of Student Conduct and General Operating Procedures was shared with board members. Having received no feedback, Dr. Ludwig presented the final draft of the documents for review. The Board will consider approval at the July 17 regular voting meeting.

As mentioned during a Policy Committee meeting held on June 12th, and as documented in posted minutes of the meeting, several proposed policies were presented as the result of recent changes in legislation. Policies #137, #137.1, #137.2, and #137.3 address opportunities to students enrolled in a home education program. Policies #200, #202, #204, #217, #221, and #251 address students and families experiencing homelessness. The administration is currently developing procedures to manage how parents of homeschooled students and families experiencing homelessness can request access to available services. The Board will consider approval of a first reading at the July 17th regular voting meeting, with a second and final reading tentative with August 14th DSF meeting items.

Shearer requested stronger language be inserted in policy #251 to define homeless. Ludwig stated that the law does not allow for asking specific types of questions when a student is enrolling. Proposed changes to the law are addressed at the legislative level. Wilson agreed, stating that proactive steps that can be taken by a School Board should be taken. Ioannidis reported that language of proposed policies follows the law, according to comments by the solicitor; if anything changes, board members will be alerted.

PERSONNEL

Stein presented a memorandum of proposed personnel actions for consideration of approval at the July 17th regular voting meeting.

ATHLETICS AND MUSIC

A suggestion to consider a Stadium Scoreboard Ribbon Cutting ceremony was reviewed. Steph Kennedy, Community Relations Coordinator, has suggested October 19th when this year's "Meet the Rockets" event is slated to be held in conjunction with the Homecoming Community Celebration (K-12) and the homecoming parade. Several groups of students and members of the community-at-large will be represented on that date. Kennedy is working through the details and potential sponsorships. Stiles anticipates the scoreboard will be up and operational beginning in August, giving returning students of the AVJ class time to get acclimated to the new scoreboard and its features. More information to follow.

Ioannidis reported that Kate King, Executive Director of Spring Grove Regional Parks and Recreation Center, received permission from Jackson Township to place a banner at the front entrance of the campus to announce the coming of the partnership with the YMCA. No action is needed by the School Board.

CURRICULUM

Wilson presented a proposed affiliation agreement with Penn State York for review. Dr. Guadagnino stated the agreement is like others presented to allow for university students to conduct internships and complete necessary credit hours on site. The Board will consider approval at the July 17th regular voting meeting.

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PLANNING

White requested that the administration consider implementing a staff dress code for inclusion in staff handbooks. Ioannidis stated that there is provision in the current CBA that any discussion regarding a dress code would be done “jointly” between the District and the Association. He will reach out to Association representatives to begin the conversation.

Rohrbaugh called for an executive session to discuss personnel following adjournment of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Trettel moved for adjournment at 8:30 PM. Wilson seconded. Meeting adjourned by unanimous voice vote.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

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