

**SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting
January 18, 2024**

Members Present:

*Bruce Lord, President
Jennifer Lofland, Vice President
Domenic Bentivegna, Director
Jennifer Flynn, Director
Bob Hornberger, Director
Nicole Rechner, Director
Jacqueline Guy, Director
Kevin Keenan, Secretary
Joseph Sillo, Treasurer*

*Anthony Barber, Superintendent of Schools
Donald Mooney, Executive Director of Operations
Mark Sereni, Solicitor
Lisanne Mikula, Director of Human Resources (absent)*

MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Lord led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Michael Lee, 123 W. Sylvan Ave, Morton, Mr. Lee had suggested four history books to be added to the SHS library.

Drew Melbourne, 242 Harwicke Rd, Springfield, Mr. Melbourne offered his concerns and a few suggestions regarding the hiring of the Director of School Safety.

B. ITEMS FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

1. SHS Cheerleading Team – Ms. Trella
Ms. Trella congratulated the SHS Cheerleading team for their hard work and dedication to the team. Ms. Trella thanked the coaches for guiding and shaping the team. She also thanked the parents and boosters for their unwavering support. The SHS coaches thanked the Board for acknowledging the athletes. The team won PIAA District 1 cheerleading championship. Athletes will travel to Hershey PA for the State playoffs.
2. SHS Scores Recognition– Dr. Hepp
Dr. Hepp stated schools across the Commonwealth receive scores based off of keystones and other factors for 2022-2023. SHS was ranked in the top 10 in the state, 9th in ELA, and 10th in Mathematics. They were 2nd in the ELA and 1st in

the county for Mathematics. Dr. Lofland thanked Dr. Hepp for his continued leadership.

3. SSD Pillar Report – Ms. Flynn and Ms. Rechner

Academics

ETR created an ELA Honor Society under the guidance of Mrs. Amalfitano. The students are extremely excited to be part of this organization.

Our SHS students are currently in the middle of their midterm exams; obviously, the weather has been a factor with the schedules, but rest assured, all will turn out fine.

I-Ready assessments for our elementary students began in January. These assessments help to make sure students are achieving their academic goals while providing lessons based on their skill level.

Service

The National Junior Honor Society at ETR has been planning its winter and spring community service activities.

Scenic Student Leaders meet with their younger peers every day before school to work on sight words and math facts.

Our HS Lacrosse team shoveled over 80 houses on Tuesday to help our community with the snow. And our SHS Thon is gaining momentum for its culminating day on April 6. Being able to support research for pediatric cancer is always one of our prime missions with this tremendous organization.

SHS Athletics

As you heard, our SHS Cheerleaders are District Champs! This is their first-place win since 2018. We look forward to their competing in the near future.

Girl's winter track beat the school record in the 4x4 by 3 seconds. What an incredible effort from our athletes!

A few of our athletics events had to be postponed due to the winter weather this week. You can visit the Athletics tab on our website to view their updated game schedules.

Activities

SLC Clubs began on January 8th. Students had the chance to join Lego, Science, Sports, Painting with a Twist, Snack, Computers, Arts & Crafts, and more!

ETR has been preparing for their musical SpongeBob and the stage crew has begun working on the set. We are so excited to be able to offer a show for students to demonstrate their talent and comradery. It should be a great performance as always.

The winter sings and Band/Orchestra concerts in December were successful! About 450 people attended each singing performance, and the auditorium was full of cheers from friends and families who simply loved the sounds of the season.

C. COMMITTEE REPORTS

❖ Education – Jennifer Lofland

Met on January 11th. School Board Interns and principals presented their reports. Dr. Brigg introduced the teacher mentoring induction. Next meeting will be February 8th at 6:30. Moving forward, Ed Committee will now be known as the Academic and Arts Committee.

❖ Facilities – Kevin Keenan, Chair

Met on January 9th, virtually. Mr. Keenan thanked the facilities team for their hard work in clearing the snow from our campuses. Committee discussed the final step of the ETR air conditioning project. New committee is being formed, Athletics and Service.

❖ Finance & Audit – Joe Sillo, Chair

Did not meet. Please reach out to Mr. Sillo if you would like to attend a future meeting.

- ❖ **Personnel – Bruce Lord, Chair**
Met earlier in the week to discuss personnel issues.
- ❖ **Policy – Domenic Bentivegna, Chair**
Did not meet.
- ❖ **Volunteer Memorial – Domenic Bentivegna**
Met 1/15 and discussed the upcoming July 4th celebration and candidates that will be placed on the wall.

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Although Board action is required, it is generally unnecessary to hold discussion on these items. With the consent of all members, they are therefore grouped and approval is given in one motion. In the event a Board member wants to discuss any item, the Board President will move it to an appropriate place on the agenda.

1. Approval of Minutes

Reorganization Board Meeting and Regular Board Meeting – December 2023

2. Payment of Bills

General Fund checks for the months of November and December 2023 totaling \$2,314,757.98.

3. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Financial Reports

- ❖ **Tax Collector’s Reports – November and December 2023**
Springfield and Morton
- ❖ **District Financial Reports – November and December 2023**
General Fund, Investment Schedule, Revenue, Expenditures
- ❖ **Financial Reports – November and December 2023**
Middle School & High School Activity Accounts

4. Contracts for Board Approval

- ❖ *Agreement between Devereux and Springfield School District for enrollment of two (2) students for the 2023 – 2024 School Year. Total cost for student 1 (ID# 100006695) \$48,420. Total cost for student 2 (ID# 100010010) \$31,320.*

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Dr. Lofland

Vote: 9-0-0

E. ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

1. Personnel Report – Ms. Mikula

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the Personnel actions as listed in the Personnel Report.*

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Flynn

Vote: 9-0-0

Comments: The Board was presented with the resignations of three (3) noncertificated staff members, the change of employment status for two (2) noncertificated staff members, and the employment of four (4) noncertificated staff members.

2. Director of School Safety – Dr. Barber

RECOMMENDATION: *the Board authorize and direct the Solicitor to prepare and present a Petition, made pursuant to Section 13-1302-C of the Pennsylvania School Code, to the Court of Common Pleas of Delaware County to appoint Bryan Schafer to act as a school police officer with the power to issue citations for summary offenses and/or detain students until the arrival of local law enforcement and to authorize him to carry a firearm in the performance of his duties.*

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Flynn

Vote: 9-0-0

Comments: The District is asking the Board to replace Sgt. Chermak with Sgt. Schafer as the new Director of School Safety.

3. Proposed Adjudication – Dr. Barber

ROLL CALL VOTE

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the proposed Adjudication of Student #100010188.*

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Flynn

Vote: 9-0-0

Comments: Mr. Keenan stated that with the serious nature of this adjudication, it will be a roll call vote.

Director Bentivegna - attended hearing, read the transcript, approve

Director Flynn – read the transcript, approve

Director Guy – read the transcript, approve

Director Hornberger – read the transcript, approve

Director Keenan – attended the hearing, approve

Director Lofland – read the transcript, approve

Director Lord – read the transcript, approve

Director Rechner – read the transcript, approve

Director Sillo - read the transcript, approve

4. ET Richardson Middle School Masonry Work – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: that the Board approves change orders #6-10 received from McCarthy Constructions, Inc. for \$25,246.09 for additional masonry work and premium time incurred on the ET Richardson Middle School HVAC project.

All proposal costs will be funded from the capital projects bond proceeds.

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Flynn

Vote: 9-0-0

Comments: Mr. Mooney stated this is for the masonry work that is done outside and for premium time as they are working on Saturdays.

5. Real Estate Tax Assessment Settlements – Mr. Sereni

(Page 77)

RECOMMENDATION: that the Board authorizes and directs the Solicitor to finalize settlements of the following real estate tax assessment appeal for the following years and amounts:

❖ Folio No. 42-00-00511-00, 1250 Baltimore Pike, Springfield Township

For tax year 2020, an assessment of \$31,527,600 and a fair market value of \$55,900,000.

For tax year 2021, an assessment of \$50,000,000 and a fair market value of \$50,000,000.

For tax year 2022, an assessment of \$46,959,800 and a fair market value of \$46,959,800.

For tax year 2023, an assessment of \$31,304,000 and a fair market value of \$43,000,000.

For tax year 2024, an assessment of \$25,135,600 and a fair market value of \$38,200,000.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$19,879,200 below the 2020 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$685,488 to our District for tax year 2020.

This proposed resolution is an increase of \$3,040,020 above the 2021 assessment and yields a tax dollar increase of approximately \$60,343 to our District for tax year 2021.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$180 below the 2022 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$3 to our District for tax year 2022.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$15,655,980 below the 2023 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$329,369 to our District for tax year 2023.

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Flynn

Vote: 9-0-0

Comments: Mr. Sereni stated this is a property appeal for the Springfield Mall. He is bringing a proposed resolution to the Board for approval. The District does not settle below the numbers our own appraiser says they are worth.

F. LIAISON REPORTS

1. Solicitor's Report – Mr. Sereni
Nothing to report
2. DCCC Board Report – Mr. Sillo
Has not met but they were notified that one of the Board of Trustees has resigned and they are in the process of finding their replacement.
3. Future Board Meetings – February 22, 2024
March 21, 2024
4. Superintendent's Salutations – Dr. Barber
Dr. Barber thanked the public for their comments. He thanked the facilities team for their work with the winter weather. Dr. Barber read a statement regarding the decisions that are made for snow days.

Before and after each meeting, the Board meets in Nonpublic Executive Study Session to discuss personnel, legal, and labor relations matters.

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Dr. Lofland

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin Keenan