# SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS Regular Board Meeting September 28, 2023

#### Members Present:

Bruce Lord, President
Jennifer Lofland, Vice President
Domenic Bentivegna, Director
Jennifer Flynn, Director
Margaret Rovinski, Director
Nicole Rechner, Director
Jacqueline Guy, Director
Kevin Keenan, Secretary

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

## **MEETING MINUTES**

President Lord led the pledge to the flag.

# A. PUBLIC COMMENT N/A

### **B. ITEMS FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION**

- 1. Board Recognition
  - a. Dr. Hepp 2023 College Board National Recognition Programs Dr. Hepp introduced the four students who received the 2023 College Board National Recognition. Congratulations to Gabriel Guy, Amara Nzeh, Emmanuel Gitu, and Savannah Brown.
  - b. Dr. Butler Tech students Dr. Butler recognized the students who participated in the Summer Tech Program. Students assisted in the Chromebook collection, updates, troubleshooting, and problem-solving.
- 2. Pillar Report Ms. Flynn and Ms. Rechner

#### **Academics**

We received some great data from our PSSA results in Grades 3-8 from last year. The following numbers are percentages of proficient and advanced students:

Subject	District	State	Difference
Language Arts	83.2	53.7	29.5
Math	71.4	39.4	32
Science	86.7	65.5	22.2

Great work by our teachers and students. We look forward to getting the breakdowns for how we compared to county data and the HS Data shortly. For now, it appears as though the catch up from COVID has occurred!

#### Service

At SHS, we held our annual Gold Out football game a few weeks back. The football game is sponsored by the Steve Stefani Dance Marathon, and the proceeds go towards assisting with research for childhood cancer. The game was well attended, and the Thon committee members did an amazing job. All the schools are beginning their service clubs as we speak, and we look forward to reporting on the on-goings at each level next month.

#### **SHS Athletics**

Football (3-1) shut out Lower Merion 44-0 on Saturday. Next up is Penncrest at PHS on Friday evening at 7pm.

Khushi Patel and Floresse Bergado went to Central Athletic League singles for tennis last week. Both performed well.

Both Boys' and Girls' soccer teams have been steady. Some great wins and hard losses. Both teams are in the thick of the standings.

Girls Field Hockey won a close game last week against Lower Merion.

#### **Activities**

At the elementary schools, we are hosting our School Safety Weeks. Thanks to Sergeant Chermak for all his help and support. In addition, our elementary Race for Education and walkathons are underway. Likewise, intermural signups have also begun at ETR, as well as their sports.

At SHS, special kudos to our Marching Band and Cheerleaders who braved the elements this past Saturday in the driving rain to play and cheer on our football team as they played Lower Merion. As one Lower Merion spectator stated on the way out of the game, "Springfield's band and cheerleaders were no joke!" We agree. Congratulations for all your hard work.

#### C. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ❖ Education Jennifer Lofland, Chair Education Committee met 9/14. The Directors gave a summer recap and gave a building update. Ms. Conlin, who will be leading the committee, gave an updated agenda for the year. Dr. Lofland explained the two Board Interns will be attending Education Committee instead of the Board Meeting. Next meeting will be held 10/12.
- ❖ Facilities Kevin Keenan, Chair Mr. Keenan reminded the public that if anyone is caught vandalizing District property, charges will be pressed. Facilities met on 9/9 and discussed bid packages and repairs. Mr. Keenan thanked Mike Adams for his dedication to the community.
- ❖ Finance & Audit Joseph Sillo, Chair Mr. Mooney stated the Finance Committee did not meet in September. They will meet on 10/3.
- Personnel Bruce Lord, Chair

Did not meet.

- Policy Domenic Bentivegna, Chair Did not meet.
- Volunteer Memorial Domenic Bentivegna Met on 9/8 and discussed redeveloping the Volunteer Memorial Ceremony.

#### 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.

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 8-0-0

#### 1. Approval of Minutes

Regular Board Meetings - August 24, 2023

### 2. Payment of Bills

General Fund checks for the month of August 2023 totaling \$1,087,626.92.

#### 3. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Financial Reports

- Tax Collector's Reports August 2023 Morton and Springfield
- District Financial Reports August 2023
   General Fund, Investment Schedule, Revenue, Expenditures
- Financial Reports August 2023
   Middle School & High School Activity Accounts

#### 4. Contracts for Board Approval

Agreement between UHS of Doylestown, LLC, hereinafter referred to as ("Foundations"): Lifeworks School ("LWS") to provide Specialized Educational Services for 2023-2024 School Year. Total cost for one (1) student: \$45,360.00.

### E. ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

## 1. Superintendent's Contract - Dr. Lofland and Mr. Lord

**RECOMMENDATION:** that the Board approves the termination, effective September 28, 2023, of the Employment Agreement of Superintendent Anthony Barber dated May 27, 2021.

Motion: Mr. Keenan

Second: Ms. Rovinski

*Vote: 8-0-0* 

Comments: Mr. Lord stated that Dr. Barber was tasked with putting together a strong admin team. Within that team, there were three important retirements. Dr. Barber and his team worked hard to replace those three individuals. With the anticipation of additional retirements, the District would like to have a smoother transition. Dr. Barber's contract will be terminated and then reinstated with the only change being the end date of his contract.

# 2. Superintendent's Contract - Dr. Lofland and Mr. Lord

**RECOMMENDATION**: that the Board approves the written "Employment Agreement between the Superintendent of Schools, Anthony Barber, and the Board of School Directors of Springfield School District", with an effective date of September 29, 2023, for a term of fifty-seven (57) months, and at the annual base salary of \$236,968.08; and authorizes and directs the Board President to execute the same, subject to the review and approval of final language by the Solicitor.

Motion: Ms. Guy Second: Dr. Lofland Vote: 8-0-0

Comments: Dr. Lofland thanked Dr. Barber for all he does for the District.

## 3. Personnel Report - Ms. Mikula

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

Motion: Ms. Guy Second: Dr. Lofland Vote: 8-0-0

Comments: Ms. Mikula presented to the Board the resignation of one (1) certified staff member. One correction to the August 24, 2023 Personnel Report. Employment of one (1) certified teacher, two (2) non-certified staff, and two (2) family Medical Leaves.

## 4. Approval of Comprehensive Plan - Dr. Barber

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board approves the Comprehensive Plan, to include the Professional Development Plan (Act 48) and Induction Plan (Chapter 49).

Motion: Ms. Guy Second: Dr. Lofland Vote: 8-0-0

Comments: This is a PDE Mandate that every District completes the Comprehensive Plan. It is posted on our website and outlines how we maintain our pillars (data plans, etc).

## 5. PSBA Candidates for 2024 - Mr. Lord

**RECOMMENDATION:** that the Board approve Mr. Keenan to register votes for the 2024 PSBA Officers and Trustees in the upcoming election:

- Allison Mathis, President-Elect
- Sabrina Backer, Vice President
- Karen Beck Pooley PSBA Treasurer
- Marsha Pleta Western Zone Representative
- Erik Meredith Section W3 Advisor

Motion: Ms. Rovinski

Second: Ms. Guy

Vote: 8-0-0

Comments: PSBA is an organization our School Board is a part of. The District is not active in its management, but we utilize its services in regard to policy and legislation matters.

### 6. Independent Contractor Agreement - Mr. Mooney

**RECOMMENDATION**: that the Board approves the agreement between Springfield School District and independent contractor, Linda Bellace, to provide human resources consulting services for the Springfield School District. This Agreement is for the 2023-2024 school year, not to exceed \$30,000, with an automatic annual renewal.

Motion: Ms. Rovinski

Second: Ms. Guy

Vote: 8-0-0

Comments: Ms. Bellace will help the District work on HR-specific projects.

## 7. Special Education Agreement - Dr. Barber

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board agree and accept the proposed Settlement, Waiver, and Release Agreement for student "12170".

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Flynn

*Vote:* 8-0-0

Comments: As with all Special Education Agreements, the specific details will not be discussed in public.

# 8. Special Education Agreement - Dr. Barber

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board agree and accept the proposed Settlement, Waiver, and Release Agreement for student "8900".

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Flynn

Vote: 8-0-0

Comments: As with all Special Education Agreements, the specific details will not be discussed in public.

## 9. Special Education Agreement - Dr. Barber

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board agree and accept the proposed Settlement, Waiver, and Release Agreement for student "8354".

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 8-0-0

Comments: As with all Special Education Agreements, the specific details will not be discussed in public.

# 10. Sabold Elementary School Mechanical Work Change Order Approval – Mr. Mooney

**RECOMMENDATION:** that the Board approves the following change orders #2 and 4 for \$24,829.32 for electrical revisions and carpentry modifications for work performed by the general contractor and electrical contractor for HVAC installation work provided at Sabold Elementary School.

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

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 8-0-0

Comments: These are two change orders for the electrician and the general contractor. There were some issues identified in the field that had to be addressed.

### 11. Memorandum of Understanding - Mr. Lord

**RECOMMENDATION**: That the Board approves the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Springfield Board of School Directors and the Springfield Education Support Professional Association relating to the creation of a new employee category under the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the parties.

Motion: Dr. Lofland

Second: Ms. Rechner

*Vote: 8-0-0* 

Comments: In the collective bargaining agreement, the district has made some technical changes regarding employee categories.

# 12. Memorandum of Understanding - Mr. Lord

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Springfield Board of School Directors and the Springfield Education Support Professional Association relating to the reclassification of an existing position to a different employee category under the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the parties.

Motion: Dr. Lofland

Second: Ms. Rechner

*Vote:* 8-0-0

Comments: This is for a few technical changes that were made to the agreement

13. Delaware County Community College Trustee Reappointment - Mr. Sillo (Roll Call Vote)

**RECOMMENDATION:** that the board approves the Delaware County Community College (DCCC) Trustee Reappointments for the following people to the Board of Trustees for a new six-year term.

## Marilyn A. Spicer David H. Grossman

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 8-0-0

Comments: The Board must elect trustees annually. Mr. Sillo recommends we approve these two individuals.

### F. LIAISON REPORTS

**1.** Solicitor's Report – Mr. Sereni *Nothing to report.* 

- **2.** DCCC Board Report Mr. Sillo *N/A*
- 3. DCIU Board Report Ms. Rovinski Met 9/6 and are beginning their hiring process. DCIU is looking to expand their technical school. The next meeting will be 10/4.
- **4.** Future Board Meetings October 26, 2023 November 16, 2023
- **5.** Superintendent's Salutations Dr. Barber *Dr. Barber thanked the Board for extending his contract.*

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: Ms. Rovinski

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Keenan