

**SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting
April 22, 2021**

Members Present:

*Bruce Lord, President
Jennifer Lofland, Vice President
Joseph Sillo, Secretary
Domenic Bentivegna, Director
Jennifer Flynn, Director
Jacqueline Guy, Director
Kevin Keenan, Director
Margaret Rovinski, Director*

*Anthony Barber, Superintendent of Schools
Don Mooney, Executive Director of Operations
Lisanne Mikula, Solicitor*

MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Lord led the pledge to the flag.

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

Catrina Brosko 1149 Providence Road Thanked the district for offering the SVA option to help keep vulnerable children safe. Publicly thanked Dr. Soslau and Mrs. German for their hard work and positive impact.

Becki Miller 79 South Hillcrest Road Wanted to discuss a possible opening date for students to finish out the school year. Would like students to return to some kind of normal. Stressed that students need structure.

B. ITEMS FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

1. Cougar Sports Report – Ms. Flynn
 - ❖ ETR will begin Spring competitions today, 4/22. Fall and Winter sports were an Intramural-based program. There will be more to report next month.
 - ❖ SHS Girls basketball team had a phenomenal season. Their record was as follows:
 - Central League Champs
 - District Champs – for the 2nd consecutive year
 - The team made it to the semi-final round of the State Tournament
 - ❖ SHS Girls basketball finished their season with a 23-1 record. Alexa Abbonizio became the All-Time Lead Scorer and fellow senior, Rachel Conran earned First Team All Central. Congratulations to these two young ladies and the entire basketball team.
 - ❖ Spring sports are in full swing.
 - ❖ Both the boys and girls lacrosse teams are 6-3.
 - ❖ Softball is 5-1.
 - ❖ Baseball is 5-3.
 - ❖ The girls track team is off to a great start with a record of 7-1.

- ❖ Boys tennis has 2 league wins so far.

C. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ❖ Education – Jennifer Lofland, Chair

Met April 8th. Discussed the administrative changes for next year. Also discussed the new Intro to Writing Class and Science class. Dr. Lofland reiterated the importance of a strong introduction to writing and constructive feedback from peers.

Dr. Lofland read a technology update from Dr. Melissa Butler.

- *The district was able to distribute 694 chrome books to student's K-5. These were purchased through federal grants, a grant through SAEF from a donor for the Morton Summer Program.*
- *1,331 chrome books were distributed to other students as well.*
- *Due to COVID, infrastructure and upgrades were made to improve our system; to include our own zoom server and increase the RAM in teacher laptops.*

In the Principals report – principals discussed the transition of students from one building to another to ensure proper communication between buildings as students move.

Next meeting will be held: May 13th at 6:30 in the auditorium. Open to the public.

- ❖ Facilities – Kevin Keenan, Chair

Met April 8th. Discussed the continuing closeout of Phase 1 of the Master Plan, the punch list for the commissioning status, and reviewed the demolition status and path forward for the existing high school across the property. Held discussions regarding the maintenance building on Saxer Avenue and turning it into the new long-term maintenance building as well as the work that will occur at Halderman field. They adjourned into the Executive Session to discuss contractual matters.

Next meeting will be May 13th at 6 PM in person and on zoom. Contact Don Mooney if you would like to attend.

- ❖ Finance & Audit – Frank Agovino, Chair

Mr. Agovino was not present. Mr. Mooney provided the update. Committee met March 29th. Discussed the Master Plan financing update. The Board will be taking on action tonight on 2016 A refunding and discussed budget for 2021-2022 and year-to-date results for 2020-2021. Finally, discussed the Delco reassessment update. The district is in the middle of negotiating numerous appeals.

- ❖ Personnel – Bruce Lord, Chair

Did not meet.

- ❖ Policy – Domenic Bentivegna, Chair

Did not meet.

- ❖ Communications – Frank Agovino, Chair

- ❖ Volunteer Memorial – Domenic Bentivegna
Will be meeting May 6th.

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

Regular Board Meetings – March 25, 2021

2. Payment of Bills

*General Fund checks for the month of March, 2021
totaling \$1,806,691.61*

3. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Financial Reports

- ❖ Tax Collector's Reports –
Morton and Springfield

- ❖ District Financial Reports –
General Fund, Investment Schedule, Revenue, Expenditures

- ❖ Financial Reports –
Middle School & High School Activity Accounts

4. Contract for Fireworks Display at 2021 High School Graduation – Mr Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: that the Board approves the contract received from Schaefer Fireworks to provide fireworks display services after the June 4, 2021 High School Graduation Ceremony. The total cost for this contract is \$2,100 and will be funded from the General Fund operating budget.

Motion: Jacqueline Guy
Comments: None

Second: Dr. Lofland

Vote: 8-0-0

E. ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

1. Personnel Report – Ms. Bellace

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

Motion: Jacqueline Guy

Second: Dr. Lofland

Comments: Dr. Barber presented 6 end of the year retirements and 1 resignation of certified staff members in addition to 5 end of the year retirements for non-certified staff members.

Dr. Barber is also presenting the hiring of 1 non-certified staff member and the change of employment status of 1 non-certified staff member. Effective for the 2021-2022 school year. Presenting a request for 1 request for sabbatical leave for professional development and 5 requests for family medical leave.

2. Real Estate Tax Assessment Settlements – Ms. Mikula

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

- ❖ Folio No. 42-00-00432-00, 50 Baltimore Pike, Springfield Township
2021 \$4,458,750 assessment/ \$7,905,585 fair market value

Appealed-from assessment/fair market value of the above property:
\$7,000,000 assessment/ \$7,000,000 fair market value.

This proposed resolution represents an increase of \$2,335,810 above the 2021 assessment and yields a tax dollar gain of approximately \$45,959 to our District for tax year 2021.

- ❖ Folio No. 42-00-00374-00, 149 Baltimore Pike, Springfield Township
2021 \$2,400,000 assessment/ \$2,400,000 fair market value.

Appealed-from assessment/fair market value of the above property:
\$2,400,000 assessment/ \$2,400,000 fair market value.

This proposed resolution represents an increase of \$361,850 above the 2021 assessment and yields a tax dollar gain of approximately \$7,120 to our District for tax year 2021.

Any additional information about these tax appeals can be found on the district website.

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

Comments: Ms. Mikula explained these are two tax assessments initiated by the district. She is pleased to report the district was able to resolve all matters at the highest values that our district appraisers felt they could support.

3. Election of Intermediate Unit Board Members – Ms. Rovinski

RECOMMENDATION: that the Board elects the Delaware County Intermediate Unit Board members listed below for the term indicated.

Term: July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024

Chichester.....Edward Cardow
Penn-Delco.....M. Colleen Powell
Rose Tree Media.....Hillary Fletcher
Upper Darby.....Rachel Mitchell

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

Comments: Ms. Rovinski gave a brief bio on each candidate.

4. Special Education Agreement – Dr. Barber

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the joint Special Education Agreement between Springfield School District and Student ID #9263.*

Motion: Jacqueline Guy Second: Jennifer Lofland Vote: 8-0-0

5. Delaware County Community College Budget – Mr. Sillo (Roll Call Vote)

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the 2021-2022 Delaware County Community College budget.*

Motion: Jacqueline Guy Second: Jennifer Lofland Vote: 8-0-0

<i>Frank Agovino</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Domenic Bentivegna</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Jennifer Flynn</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Jacqueline Guy</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Kevin Keenan</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Bruce Lord</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Jennifer Lofland</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Margaret Rovinski</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Joseph Sillo</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Comments: Mr. Sillo explained that enrollment is the primary driver of the budget. There has been no increase from 2020-2021 tuition fees. Mr. Sillo reviewed the reasons for the District's small increase. Mr. Sillo recommends the budget.

6. Springfield High School Master Plan Change Order Approval – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves changed order #01-001 in the amount of \$62,069.43 for general construction painting, tile modification and ADA parking additions for the high school master plan project.*

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

Motion: Jacqueline Guy Second: Jennifer Lofland Vote: 8-0-0

Comments: Mr. Mooney explained this is the initial change order for the Phase 3 general contractor.

7. Series A of 2016 Bond Refunding – Mr. Mooney

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RECOMMENDATION: that the Board approves the proposed bond resolution that authorizes the district to pursue the refunding of General Obligation Bond Series A of 2016 up to \$12,000,000 if lower interest rates can be obtained and the district can realize a present value savings of at least 2% of refunded principal.

Motion: Jacqueline Guy Second: Margaret Rovinski

The Board voted as follows on this motion:

Frank Agovino	Absent
Domenic Bentivegna	Yes
Jennifer Flynn	Yes
Jacqueline Guy	Yes
Kevin Keenan	Yes
Bruce Lord	Abstained
Jennifer Lofland	Yes
Margaret Rovinski	Yes
Joseph Sillo	Yes

Comments: Mr. Mooney explained the reasoning to sell the bond as the interest rates remain low. The savings are projected to be about \$1 million.

8. Bond Purchase Proposal – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: that the Board approves the proposal received from PFM Financial Advisors, LLC to arrange and participate in completing the full sale, issuance and delivery of the Springfield School District's Series A of 2021 General Obligation Bonds to be issued in a maximum aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$12,000,000.

Motion: Jacqueline Guy Second: Margaret Rovinski Vote: 7-0-1

The Board voted as follows on this motion:

Frank Agovino	Absent
Domenic Bentivegna	Yes
Jennifer Flynn	Yes
Jacqueline Guy	Yes
Kevin Keenan	Yes
Bruce Lord	Abstained
Jennifer Lofland	Yes
Margaret Rovinski	Yes
Joseph Sillo	Yes

Comments: Mr. Mooney explained that PFM works as the District's financial advisor and will coordinate the sale and issuance of these bonds.

9. Plan Con Part K Filing – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: that the Board approves the filing and subsequent approval of the series 2021 Bonds' Plan Con Part K – Project Refinancing filing with the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the related materials for the Springfield High School master plan project.

Motion: Jacqueline Guy Second: Margaret Rovinski Vote: 7-0-1

Comments: Mr. Mooney explained this is the updated Plan Con Part K from 2015 that was funded in January. This is the process to start to receive PDE reimbursement.

Ms. Rovinski asked approximately how much the district will receive. Mr. Mooney answered it will be approximately \$40,000/year over the next 20 years (the life of the bond).

F. LIAISON REPORTS

1. Solicitor's Report – Ms. Mikula
No report, but Ms. Mikula wanted to take the opportunity to commend the team of volunteers at the vaccination clinic.

2. DCIU Board Report – Mrs. Rovinski
*The DCIU took the district's lead and held several vaccination clinics. DCIU and DCTS is planning their graduation and awards ceremony on May 19th on the Aston campus and May 20th on the Folcroft campus. It will also be streamed on YouTube.
A parent sent a letter to the DCIU letting them know that her daughter was not happy to go to school but after being there for a few days, she was happy to be back.
The DCIU board meeting will be May 5th.*

3. DCCC Board Report – Mr. Sillo
Has not met.

4. Future Board Meetings – May 27, 2021
June 24, 2021

5. Superintendent's Salutations – Dr. Barber
*Comments: Dr. Barber stated he was prepared to read Mrs. Brosko's statements if she was unable to attend. The board appreciates the feedback. Please fill out the SVA survey and the district will improve in whatever way they can.
Dr. Barber thanked the Tech Department for their hard work.
Dr. Barber thanked the volunteers at the vaccine clinic, as well as Ch0Chi and Springfield Pharmacy. 12 years old and up will be able to be vaccinated in the upcoming weeks. The District will contact families once it is approved.*

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Ms. Rovinski

Second: Dr. Lofland


Joseph Silo