

**SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting
August 26, 2021**

Members Present:

*Bruce Lord, President
Jennifer Lofland, Vice President
Joseph Sillo, Secretary
Frank Agovino, Treasurer
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
Linda Bellace, Human Resources Director
Lisanne Mikula, Solicitor*

MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Lord led the pledge to the flag. The Board of School Directors introduced themselves to the audience. Mr. Lord asked the audience to be respectful and orderly.

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

❖ There were 28 Springfield and Morton community members that made public comment. Comments were in support or against the consideration of the Health & Safety Plan.

Mr. Lord thanked those that were respectful to the speakers.

B. 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: Dr. Lofland

Vote: 9-0-0

1. Approval of Minutes

Regular Board Meeting – June 24, 2021

2. Payment of Bills

General Fund checks for the months of June and July 2021 totaling \$3,084,868.82.

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4. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Financial Reports

- ❖ Tax Collector's Reports – July 2021
Morton and Springfield
- ❖ District Financial Reports – June and July 2021
General Fund, Investment Schedule, Revenue, Expenditures
- ❖ Financial Reports – June and July 2021
Middle School & High School Activity Accounts

5. Contracts for Board Approval

- ❖ Agreement with VFES (Valley Forge Education Services) for services for one (1) student (ID #100005546) for the Vocational Immersion Program from July 6, 2021 to August 30, 2021.
Total cost for one (1) student \$6,100.
- ❖ Agreement with CADES (George Crothers Memorial School) for services for one (1) student (ID #100011789) for the 2021-22 School Year (180 days) at a daily rate of \$308.91.
Total cost for one (1) student \$55,603.80.
- ❖ Agreement with CADES (George Crothers Memorial School) for services for one (1) student (ID #100011712) for the 2021-22 School Year (180 days) at a daily rate of \$374.64.
Total cost for one (1) student \$67,435.20.
- ❖ Agreement with Valley Forge Educational Services for services for one (1) student (ID # 100011497) for the 2021-2022 School Year.
Total cost for one (1) student: \$68,500.00.
- ❖ Agreement with The Timothy School for enrollment of one (1) student (ID #100004705) for school programs required by the IEP; services for the 2021-2022 School Year.
Total cost for one (1) student: \$82,500.00.
- ❖ Agreement with The Timothy School for enrollment of one (1) student (ID #100010985) for school programs required by the IEP; services for the 2021-2022 School Year.
Total cost for one (1) student: \$82,500.00.
- ❖ Agreement with The Timothy School for enrollment of one (1) student (ID #100010603) for school programs required by the IEP; services for the 2021-2022 School Year.
Total cost for one (1) student: \$82,500.00.
- ❖ Agreement with Elwyn Davidson School for one-to-one services for one (1) student (ID #100006162) for the 2021-2022 School Year (182 days) at a cost of \$190.00 per day.
Total cost for one (1) student: \$34,580.00.

7. Act 80 Exceptions

Approval of the request to the PA Department of Education for Act 80 Exceptions for the 2021-2022 school year on the dates when school is not in session in order to provide in-service instruction for our teachers and parent/teacher conferences.

C. ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

1. Health and Safety Plan – Dr. Barber

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the Health and Safety Plan presented by the school district administration to begin the 2021-2022 school year.*

Motion: *Ms. Guy*

Second: *Ms. Rovinski*

Vote: *8-1-0*

Comments: *Dr. Barber thanked the audience for their commitment to the District and for their behavior. He encouraged those that still have questions to contact their principal or building administrator. He explained the plan was put together based on vaccination status. Mr. Lord explained that questions asked tonight may not be answered in a timely fashion for the start of the school year to which Dr. Barber replied to please contact himself or the building principals for more information.*

Ms. Guy asked for clarification on when to quarantine. Dr. Barber explained that the recommendation explains quarantining and to contact your building principal for more information.

Mr. Agovino stated that although the Health and Safety Plan is thoughtful, he does not feel qualified to make this decision. Mr. Agovino asked the state and county officials to assist the Districts.

2. Personnel Report – Ms. Bellace

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

Motion: *Dr. Lofland*

Second: *Mr. Keenan*

Vote: *9-0-0*

Comments: *Ms. Bellace stated we had a busy hiring summer. This report included the resignation of three (3) certified staff members, the retiring of two (2) non-certified staff members, the resignation of four (4) non-certified staff members.*

Also recommending the employment of sixteen (16) certified teachers, nineteen (19) long-term substitute teachers, nine (9) certified staff members. Change of employment status for four (4) non-certified staff members. Presenting four (4) FMLA, one (1) restoration of health sabbatical for the 1st semester and one (1) child-rearing leave for the 2021-2022 school year.

Mr. Lord thanked Ms. Bellace and her staff for their hard work throughout the summer.

3. SSD Open Records Officer – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the designation of Dawn Ries to act as the District's Open Records Officer pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right-To-Know Law, effective September 1, 2021.*

Motion: *Ms. Guy*

Second: *Ms. Rovinski*

Vote: *9-0-0*

Comments: *Mr. Mooney explained the district is realigning responsibilities in the district office.*

4. Plan Con Part K Filing – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the filing and subsequent approval of the Series A of 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: *Ms. Guy*

Second: *Ms. Rovinski*

Vote: *9-0-0*

Comments: *Mr. Mooney explained this is the refunding of the 2016 Series A that was closed in June.*

5. Independent Contractor Agreement – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the agreement between Springfield School District and independent contractor Beth Brady to provide and maintain a communication program for the district and board support services for the 2021-2022 school year. These services will be billed hourly at a rate of \$31.25 per hour for a total cost not to exceed of \$50,000.*

Motion: *Ms. Guy*

Second: *Ms. Flynn*

Vote: *9-0-0*

Comments: *Mr. Mooney explained this agreement is the renewal for the 2021-2022 school year.*

6. 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. 42-00-07863-00, 323 East Woodland Avenue, Springfield Township 2021 \$25,000 assessment/\$25,000 fair market value.*

*Appealed-from assessment/fair market value of the above property:
\$135,590 assessment/\$135,590 fair market value.*

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$110,590 below the 2021 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$2,195 to our District for tax year 2021.

- ❖ Folio No. 42-00-07864-00, 401 E. Woodland Avenue, Springfield Township
2021 \$550,000 assessment/\$550,000 fair market value.

*Appealed-from assessment/fair market value of the above property:
\$624,380 assessment/\$624,380 fair market value.*

*This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$74,380 below the 2021
assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$1,476 to our
District for tax year 2021.*

- ❖ Folio No. 42-00-00431-00, 18 Baltimore Pike, Springfield Township
2021 \$2,800,000 assessment/\$2,800,000 fair market value.

*Appealed-from assessment/fair market value of the above property:
\$2,466,100 assessment/\$2,466,100 fair market value.*

*This proposed resolution represents an increase of \$333,900 above the 2021
assessment and yields a tax dollar gain of approximately \$6,627 to our
District for tax year 2021.*

- ❖ Folio No. 42-00-00394-00, 641 Baltimore Pike, Springfield Township
2021 \$7,000,000 assessment/\$7,000,000 fair market value.

*Appealed-from assessment/fair market value of the above property:
\$4,136,580 assessment/\$4,136,580 fair market value.*

*This proposed resolution represents an increase of \$2,863,420 above the
2021 assessment and yields a tax dollar gain of approximately \$56,837 to
our District for tax year 2021.*

- ❖ Folio No. 42-00-01482-06, 1248 Country Club Drive, Springfield Township
2021 \$330,000 assessment/\$330,000 fair market value.

*Appealed-from assessment/fair market value of the above property:
\$353,490 assessment/\$353,490 fair market value.*

*This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$23,490 below the 2021
assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$466 to our
District for tax year 2021.*

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 9-0-0

Comments: Ms. Mikula explained we have been working with the appraiser to establish values at the highest value the appraiser has set. Mr. Agovino and Mr. Keenan thanked Mr. Mooney, Ms. Mikula, and their team for their hard work in assessing the taxes. Mr. Lord stated the District is doing their part to help correct under assessed parcels and help the taxpayers.

7. Approval for Destruction of Board Minutes – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approve the preservation of all minutes of the regular and special meetings of the Springfield School District Board of School Directors from August 29, 1912 through the present and continuing into the future, in electronic PDF/A format to be kept in a live server environment with at least one backup copy stored separately, that such electronic documents will be deemed the permanent records of the Springfield School District, and that, following the preservation of the minutes as described herein, paper copies of such minutes may be destroyed.*

Motion: *Mr. Bentivegna* **Second:** *Ms. Flynn* **Vote:** *9-0-0*

Comments: *Mr. Mooney explained that the district must keep the board members since inception. The District has three (3) digital backups of the minutes. The documents to be destroyed consist of 25 boxes that will free up storage space.*

8. 2022 District Related Appeals – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board authorizes the Solicitor to prosecute the following real estate tax assessment appeals for the Tax Year 2022 regarding the following properties.*

- ❖ *42-00-00455-00 – 410 Baltimore Pike, Springfield Township*
- ❖ *42-00-00469-00 – 600 Baltimore Pike, Springfield Township*
- ❖ *42-00-06589-02 – 730 S. Chester Road, Springfield Township*

Motion: *Ms. Guy* **Second:** *Ms. Rovinski* **Vote:** *9-0-0*

Comments: *Mr. Mooney explained these are three additional district initiated related appeals to determine the correct assessed values for the properties.*

9. Special Education Agreement – Dr. Barber

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board agree and accept proposed Settlement, Waiver and Release Agreement for student #8712.*

Motion: *Mr. Bentivegna* **Second:** *Dr. Lofland* **Vote:** *9-0-0*

Comments: *Dr. Barber stated that details were not allowed to be made public, but the team has worked with the parents and attorneys to make the best agreement possible to serve the student's needs as well as the district's fiduciary responsibility to its taxpayers.*

10. Special Education Agreement – Dr. Barber

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the joint Special Education Agreement between Springfield School District and Student ID #6872.*

Motion: *Ms. Rovinski*

Second: *Dr. Lofland*

Vote: *9-0-0*

Comments: *Dr. Barber said the same conditions apply as in the previous agreement.*

11. Special Education Agreement – Dr. Barber

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the joint Special Education Agreement between Springfield School District and Student ID #0041.*

Motion: *Ms. Guy*

Second: *Mr. Keenan*

Vote: *9-0-0*

Comments: *Dr. Barber said the same conditions apply as in the previous agreement.*

D. SPORTS REPORT – Ms. Flynn

Comments: Mrs. Flynn stated the teams have been practicing on the field the past few weeks and there has been a record number of students signing up for sports. Middle School sports will begin after Labor Day when the students are back in school full-time. Dr. Lofland asked if August 25th was the first home football game and if we are allowed to have full attendance. Mr. Moony stated the visitor bleachers are still under construction, but the home bleachers can hold 1500 attendees.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ❖ Education – Jennifer Lofland, Chair
Did not meet. Next meeting will be held Thursday, September 9th at 6:30 in the SHS auditorium.
- ❖ Facilities – Kevin Keenan, Chair
Met in July and discussed air conditioning projects for elementary schools. Also discussed the demolition of old Springfield High School. Discussion of turning Halderman into a baseball field. Strongly recommend anyone with questions to attend a Facilities meeting. Next meeting will be held Thursday, September 9th at 6:30 PM.
- ❖ Finance & Audit – Frank Agovino, Chair
Did not meet.
- ❖ Personnel – Bruce Lord, Chair
Did not meet.
- ❖ Policy – Domenic Bentivegna, Chair
Did not meet.
- ❖ Communications – Frank Agovino, Chair
Did not meet.
- ❖ Volunteer Memorial – Domenic Bentivegna
On July 3rd the Volunteer Memorial Committee presented the 2020 plaque since the parade was cancelled in 2020.

F. LIAISON REPORTS

1. Solicitor's Report – Ms. Mikula
Nothing to report.
2. Legislative Board Report – Mr. Agovino
Nothing to report.
3. DCIU Board Report – Mrs. Rovinski
Met in July. DCIU Received a federal grant for their Headstart Program, worth about \$9 million. Hired a new director of Human Resources for a four (4) year term. Dr. Maria Edelberg was appointed for the DC Public School Healthcare Trust through Jun 2023. Received an increase for covid related emergency financial grant funding of \$1.28 million that will be used towards the Delaware County Technical School. The DCIU estimates about 60% of their employees are vaccinated.

DCTS enrollment is about 1,100. Space is still available for several programs. To apply please visit their website. Student Open Houses on September 2nd from 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM. Practical Nursing Program is going through the accreditation process. Next meeting will be held Wednesday, September 1st in person.

4. DCCC Board Report – Mr. Sillo
Has not met.
5. Future Board Meetings – September 23, 2021
October 28, 2021
6. Superintendent's Salutations – Dr. Barber
Dr. Barber thanked the all staff that worked hard over the summer to ensure school is ready to begin.
Thanked Mike Scott for attending (president of teachers association) and leading the team.
Thanked the Springfield police for their presence this evening.
Mr. Lord thanked the public for their attendance and was appreciative of their behavior.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Dr. Lofland

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph Sillo
Director and Board Secretary

