

**SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting
October 28, 2021**

Members Present:

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

*Anthony Barber, Superintendent of Schools
Don Mooney, Executive Director of Operations
Lisanne Mikula, Solicitor
Linda Bellace, Director of Human Resources*

MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Lord led the pledge to the flag.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

- ❖ **Mr. Michael Lee, 123 West Sylvan Ave** Mr. Lee reminded the audience that election day is Tuesday and the importance of electing the right leaders.
- ❖ **Dawn Ogden, 57 S. Britton Road** Ms. Ogden asked the District to have children unmasked while in the class.
- ❖ **Danielle Elder, 318 Parham Road** Ms. Elder requested we try to find our new normal and that the District unmask the students. She asked the District to become mask-free and remain vaccine optional.
- ❖ **Elena Maccario, 545 W. Springfield Road** Ms. Maccario expressed her concern over quarantining and the mask mandate.
- ❖ **Nichole Missino, 478 Granite Terrace** Ms. Missino discussed the covid policies being upheld in our District.
- ❖ **Lee McElhenney, 1037 Mt. Holyoke Place** Mr. McElhenney expressed concern over quarantining and vaccination mandates.
- ❖ **Mia DeJohn, 323 Wayne Ave** Ms. DeJohn expressed concern over covid protocols.

B. ITEMS FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

1. Cougar Student Success – Daniel Niklauski and Matthew Mullany

Mr. Hepp introduced the Board Interns, Daniel Niklauski & Matthew Mullany to update the Board on District happenings. Matthew updated the Board on how the students were involved in the pillars of service and academics. He noted:

- ❖ Community Service club has met and volunteered at SYC events and the Halloween parade.*
- ❖ SSDM held their Gold Out game, which raised over \$6,000. Their 5k run raised over \$8,000.*
- ❖ At ETR, National Junior Honor Society students helped out at back-to-school night and plan to have more events in the future.*
- ❖ Students are adjusting well to being back in school full-time, thanks to the encouragement from staff and teachers.*
- ❖ The Math department at SHS developed a program to place students in groups with similar scores.*
- ❖ At the Middle School, students are working on NJHS elections and creating new clubs.*
- ❖ Students in the elementary are working to develop their writing styles. Daniel discussed the Athletic and Arts pillars:*
- ❖ Fall sports team are finishing up their successful seasons.*
- ❖ Teachers in Arts expressed gratitude for their new equipment.*
- ❖ Students are enjoying using the new kiln and have begun crafting ceramics and other goods.*
- ❖ National Honor Society has a record of 62 members.*

2. Cougar Sports Report – Kevin Keenan

- ❖ Mr. Keenan thanked the Board Interns for the detailed report.*
- ❖ Cross Country will be running Districts at Lehigh.*
- ❖ Student Athlete Leadership Group has been active. They traveled to the middle school to speak to their athletes.*
- ❖ Mr. Keenan gave a shout-out to Coach Nelson and the freshman football team.*
- ❖ 33 student athletes were enrolled into the National Honor Society.*

3. June 30, 2021 Audit Report – BBD, LLP – Mike Mood

Mr. Mood discussed the auditors met with the Finance Committee. The board directors were provided with a presentation of the audit process and findings. Mr. Keenan thanked Mr. Mooney and the Business Office team for their hard work. Mr. Mooney commended Debbie Mosloskie and her team for their hard work. Mr. Mooney explained the audit report that was discussed will be available on the website tomorrow.

C. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ❖ Education – Jennifer Lofland, Chair
Met October 14th. Discussed various topics to include the elementary math program, Math Coaches, the Technology update, and the projected enrollment. Thoughtful and lively discussion with the public on the curriculum. Next meeting will be January 13th.
- ❖ Facilities – Kevin Keenan, Chair
Facilities meet online to discuss the Master Plan, the fields, and Halderman Field. Discussed the HVAC bids that were in process at Scenic. Dusted off the SLC expansion plans in case there is a future discussion on full-day K-1.
- ❖ Finance & Audit – Frank Agovino, Chair – Joe Sillo provided the update
The committee met and reviewed the draft of the audit report. PFM Financial Advisors led a discussion of the 2022 refunding opportunity. Discussed Real estate tax appeals. Contact Mr. Sillo or Mr. Mooney for future meeting dates.
- ❖ Personnel – Bruce Lord, Chair
Did not meet.
- ❖ Policy – Domenic Bentivegna, Chair
Met to discuss changes. Will discuss later in the meeting.
- ❖ Volunteer Memorial – Domenic Bentivegna
Students from O'Hara and SSD were awarded with a gift card as a thank you for their volunteerism.

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 – September 23, 2021

2. Payment of Bills

General Fund checks for the month of September 2021 totaling \$940,292.60

3. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Financial Reports

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

4. Contracts for Board Approval

- ❖ *Agreement with Silver Springs "Martin Luther School" to provide services for the enrollment of one (1) student (ID #100008829) for the 2021-2022 School Year at a cost of \$32,171.40 with a 4010 Funding Plan along with (1:1) Personal Care assistant at a cost of \$24,705.00.
Total cost for one (1) student: \$56,876.40.*
- ❖ *DJ Ev Disc Jockey Services
Fall Dance – Springfield High School - Courtyard
Saturday, November 6, 2021, 6:30 PM – 930 PM
Cost \$400. No net cost to District.*

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 7-0-0

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: Ms. Guy

Second: Dr. Lofland

Vote: 7-0-0

Comments: Ms. Bellace presented the retirement of 1 (one) certified teacher, the resignation of 2 (two) certified staff members, the resignation of 3 (three) non-certified staff members and the retirement of 1 (one) non-certified staff member. Ms. Bellace also presented the employment of 1 (one) certified teacher, 3 (three) long-term substitutes, 4 (four) non-certified staff members, 1 (one) substitute, and 3 (three) FMLA.

2. Real Estate Tax Assessment Settlements – Ms. Mikula

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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. 42-00-05030-00, 1201 Providence Road, Springfield Township
2021 \$220,000 assessment/\$220,000 fair market value.*

*Appealed-from assessment/fair market value of the above property:
\$300,000 assessment/\$300,000 fair market value.*

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$80,000 below the 2021 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$1,587 to our District for tax year 2021.

- ❖ *Folio No. 42-00-06634-00, 914-920 W. Sproul Road, Springfield Township 2021 \$8,600,000 assessment/\$8,600,000 fair market value.*

*Appealed-from assessment/fair market value of the above property:
\$5,702,870 assessment/\$5,702,870 fair market value.*

This proposed resolution represents an increase of \$3,109,559 above the 2021 assessment and yields a tax dollar gain of approximately \$61,723 to our District for tax year 2021.

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Dr. Lofland

Vote: 7-0-0

Comments: Mr. Lord stated there is more information on the website. Mr. Mooney explained this is our 29th settlement. Mr. Lord explained that the District felt that the reassessment was unfair and the homeowners were assessed higher.

3. Test to Stay Agreement with the DCIU – Dr. Barber

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board ratify the Memorandum of Agreement dated September 30, 2021 between the District and the Delaware County Intermediate Unit to participate in the Test to Stay Program using the BinaxNOW Rapid Antigen Test in an effort to enable asymptomatic persons who are identified as in-school close contacts during Covid-19 contact tracing to remain in school for work or learning.

Motion: Ms. Rovinski

Second: Ms. Guy

Vote: 7-0-0

Comments: Dr. Barber explained this is a voluntary program that will allow students to stay in school that are asymptomatic.

4. Board Policy - Mr. Bentivegna

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the following policy for first reading:*

- ❖ *204 - Attendance*
- ❖ *800.1 – Electronic Signatures and Records*
- ❖ *816 – District Social Media*

Motion: Mr. Bentivegna

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 7-0-0

Comments: Mr. Bentivegna explained the updated policies.

5. General Fund Balance Transfer and Reserve Designation – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approves the following General Fund balance transfer and reserve un-assignment for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021.

- ❖ \$3,019,053 transfer to the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance from the Retirement Rate Stabilization Assigned Fund Balance.

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 7-0-0

Comments: Mr. Mooney explained this is the final step of the audit. Ms. Guy asked if the district was able to reassign if needed.

6. Resolution Supporting Delaware County Schools Receiving Necessary COVID-19 District Level County Transmission Data to Make Important Decisions About the Safety of our Schools – Bruce Lord

WHEREAS, Delaware County County Council, through its contract with the Chester County Health Department, provided weekly data on County Transmission Levels and School District Specific data on these levels during the 2020 -2021 school year as published on the following chart; and

Geographic Boundary (Public School District)	Population	Positive Test Count				7-Day Average of Daily Cases				Incidence Rate Per 10,000				Incidence Rate Per 100,000			
		Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
School District	32,361	50	46	40	42	7.14	6.57	5.71	6.00	15.45	14.21	12.36	12.98	154.51	142.15	123.61	129.79

WHEREAS, Delaware County schools have been requesting the same data for the 2021-2022 school year and have been unable to obtain this data; and

WHEREAS, at the September 15, 2021 Delaware County County Council meeting, Dr. Lisa O'Mahony announced the hiring of Dr. Victor Alos Rullan, Epidemiologist for Delaware County COVID-19 Task Force as well as the epidemiologist for the future Delaware County Health Department, and announced Rosemarie Halt will be returning as Director of the COVID-19 Task Force; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lisa O'Mahony stated that a role Dr. Victor Alos Rullan will play is the sharing of CDC and Pennsylvania Department of Health data to assist with synthesizing and analyzing of the data for Delaware County; and

WHEREAS, at the September 15, 2021 Delaware County County Council meeting, a council member indicated there was briefing with Dr. Victor Alos Rullan and the level of data, analysis of data, and trends provided was helpful to assist Delaware County County Council in making decisions. The Council

member also indicated it is difficult to make good decisions without the data;
and

WHEREAS, a Delaware County County Council member indicated the Chester County Health Department is willing to assist Delaware County if there was such a need;

WHEREAS, on October 6, 2021, a Resolution was passed by the Board of Directors of the Delaware County Intermediate Unit ("DCIU") requesting that the Delaware County County Council provide data regarding COVID-19 transmission levels in each school district, similar to the data provided during the 2020 – 2021 school year, so that local school boards and administrators can make the best possible decisions in these challenging times;

WHEREAS, on October 21, 2021, Dr. Monica Taylor, Vice-Chair, Delaware County County Council, sent a Memorandum addressed to the Delaware County School Superintendents stating that the Delaware County County Council was responding to the DCIU's October 6, 2021 Resolution and stating that the County had requested this data from the Pennsylvania Department of Health but that the Pennsylvania Department of Health has refused to provide this data to the County; and

WHEREAS, the schools of Delaware County should be afforded the same level of data as provided to them in the past so schools are able to use data to make informed, good decisions for school safety during the COVID-19 pandemic;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the **Springfield School District** School Board of Directors urge the elected officials on the Delaware County County Council to exhaust their efforts to obtain school district-level COVID transmission data on a weekly basis as previously provided during the 2020 – 2021 school year by making further inquiries to the Pennsylvania Department of Health and by using all means possible to obtain this critical health data and expeditiously provide it to the school districts of Delaware County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the elected members of the Delaware County County Council.

Adopted this 28th day of October 2021.

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 7-0-0

Comments: Ms. Mikula explained this a request to the Delaware County Council to release the Covid data on the Morton and Springfield Communities. Dr. Barber and Mr. Lord stated they would be available after the meeting to answer any questions.

F. LIAISON REPORTS

1. Solicitor's Report – Ms. Mikula
Nothing to report.
2. Legislative Board Report – Mr. Agovino
N/A
3. DCIU Board Report – Mrs. Rovinski
The DCIU test-to-stay and rapid antigen testing will continue. They will be holding a vaccine clinic on 11/2/21 for SSD staff and DCIU staff. There will be student clinics in November and December. They have set up new playgrounds and early intervention programs. Next meeting will be Wednesday, November 3rd.
4. DCCC Board Report – Mr. Sillo
Met October 21st via zoom. Gave their annual liaison presentation. Fall 2021 semester has over 300 SHS students enrolled. Requesting a 1% increase from each of the sponsoring school districts.
5. Future Board Meetings – November 18, 2021
December 9, 2021
6. Superintendent's Salutations – Dr. Barber

Comments: Dr. Barber thanked the Student Board Interns for their presentation. Dr Barber thanked the public comments for their professional manner. Thanked the Board for taking action and asking a government agency for help to do more.

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: Mr. Keenan

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph Sillo

