

**SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting
August 24, 2023**

Members Present:

*Bruce Lord, President
Jennifer Lofland, Vice President
Joseph Sillo, Treasurer
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
Laurie McCarthy, Solicitor
Lisanne Mikula, Director of Human Resources*

MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Lord led the pledge to the flag. Mr. Lord welcomed every back to the first board meeting of the 2023-2024 school year. He reminded everyone to state their name and address before speaking. Mr. Lord read a statement from the Board on the issue of the proposed Wawa.

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

***Mr. Michael Lee, 123 W. Sylvan Ave, Morton,** Mr. Lee discussed his opinion on the funding of charter schools.*

***Cecilia Todd, Alpheia Lane, Morton,** Ms. Todd discussed the negative consequences of the proposed Wawa. She also mentioned she was the victim of a verbal assault at the Morton Borough Township Meeting.*

***Rebecca Lang, 32 Providence Rd, Springfield,** Ms. Lane thanked the Board for their response to the proposed Wawa and asked the Board to stand with the community and help fight it.*

***Ali Muhieddine, 919 Providence Rd,** Mr. Lord asked the speaker to email Mr. Mooney so all of his questions can be answered.*

B. ITEMS FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

1. Pillar Report – Ms. Flynn and Ms. Rechner

Academics

We welcomed back our staff with professional development days this week. The first day consisted of building-based topics such as reviewing data from the previous year, discussing student needs, and implementing procedures and protocols. On the second day, our district PD day, our teachers had some time to collaborate in order to plan for the year; additionally, they were

trained on a new data warehouse called Performance Matters. Staff were also trained in a new state-required evaluation system.

Service

Staff are preparing for their year-long service journey with our students. We have a number of new teachers in our buildings; they have been assigned mentors who will support them throughout the year. We also had members of our National Honor Society come in this week to assist teachers in setting up their classrooms after a busy summer of construction at Sabold.

Athletics

Athletic participation is through the roof for all high school teams. Athletes had a great first few weeks of sports camps and we are so excited to open on Friday for all sports. Springfield will be hosting O’Hara in their first home football game at 7 PM.

Activities

The Marching Band has been rehearsing for the past three weeks getting prepared for their season. All High School clubs will be up and running within the first few weeks of school and club advisors will be recruiting new members.

Tuesday night the high school held an open house for incoming freshmen and new students. Students were invited to walk the building to become familiar with their class schedules.

C. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ❖ **Education – Jennifer Lofland, Chair**
The first Education Committee meeting will be September 14th. Ms. Conlin will be leading the Education Committee this year.
- ❖ **Facilities – Kevin Keenan, Chair**
Mr. Mooney met virtually in July. Discussed the HVAC status of Scenic (completed), Sabold, and ETR.
- ❖ **Personnel – Bruce Lord, Chair**
Did not meet.
- ❖ **Policy – Domenic Bentivegna, Chair**
Did not meet.
- ❖ **Volunteer Memorial – Domenic Bentivegna**
Volunteer Memorial had a successful presentation of the plaque at the July 4th parade.

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. Flynn

Vote: 9-0-0

1. Approval of Minutes

Regular Board Meeting – June 22, 2023

2. Payment of Bills

General Fund checks for the months of June and July 2023 totaling \$2,570,421.05

3. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Financial Reports

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

4. Contracts for Board Approval

- ❖ *Agreement with CADES (George Crothers Memorial School) for one-on-one services for one (1) student (ID #100011839) for the 2023-2024 School Year (180 days).
Total cost of one-to-one services for one (1) student: \$40,244.00.*
- ❖ *Agreement with Elwyn Davidson School for one-on-one services for one (1) student (ID #100006778) for the 2023-2024 School Year (180 days).
Total cost of one-to-one services for one (1) student: \$16,729.20.*
- ❖ *Agreement with CADES (George Crothers Memorial School) for one-on-one services for one (1) student (ID #100011839) for ESY.
Total cost of one-to-one services for one (1) student: \$4,025.00.*
- ❖ *Agreement with CADES (George Crothers Memorial School) for intensive support services for two (2) students (ID #100011712 and ID #100011839) for ESY.
Total cost of intensive services for two (2) students: \$2,034.00.*
- ❖ *Agreement with Devereux Foundation for Extended School Year (ESY) tuition for July 1, 2023 – August 31, 2023 (Monday through Friday for a total of 30 days) for two (2) students.
Total cost for student ID #100006695: \$15,090.
Total cost for student ID #100010010: \$9,270.
Total cost for two (2) students: \$24,360.00.*
- ❖ *Agreement with The Timothy School for enrollment of one (1) student (ID #5622898781) for ESY educational services July 3 - August 10, 2023, for a tuition of \$6,440.*

Springfield School District
Board Meeting Minutes – August 24, 2023

- ❖ *Agreement with The Timothy School for enrollment of one (1) student (ID #8678671963) for ESY educational services July 3 - August 10, 2023, for a tuition of \$6,440.*
- ❖ *Agreement with The Timothy School for enrollment of one (1) student (ID #2668640458) for ESY educational services July 3 - August 10, 2023, for a tuition of \$6,440.*
- ❖ *Agreement between CADES/George Crothers Memorial School for enrollment of seven (7) students (ID #1000011712, ID #100011839, ID #100007622, ID #100009167, ID #100007064, ID #100010194 and ID #100011789) for special education program as it pertains to each student's (ESY program) Service for designated days from July 5, 2023 through July 28, 2023.
Total cost for six (6) students: \$47,397.*
- ❖ *Agreement with CADES (George Crothers Memorial School) for enrollment of two (2) students for the 2023-2024 school year (180 days) for a tuition of \$67,710.60. A student requiring intensive services, it is an additional \$10,179.
Total cost for ID # 100011712: \$77,889.60
Total cost for ID # 100011839: \$77,889.60*
- ❖ *Agreement with The Timothy School for one (1) student (ID #5622898781) for the 2023 – 2024 school year (180 days) with tuition deducted from PDE's 4010 system.*
- ❖ *Agreement with The Timothy School for one (1) student (ID #2668640458) for the 2023 – 2024 school year (180 days) with tuition deducted from PDE's 4010 system.*
- ❖ *Agreement between the Timothy School to provide Specialized Educational Services for 2023-2024 School Year.
Total cost for one (1) student (ID 8678671963): \$95,000.00*
- ❖ *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 2023 - 2024 school year. These services will be billed hourly at a rate of \$33.20 per hour for a total cost not to exceed of \$53,120.*
- ❖ *Agreement with Lakeside Educational Network for Special Educational Services (1 Slot) for the 2023-2024 School Year.
Total cost for one (1) slot: \$40,725.00.*

5. Act 80 Exceptions

Approval of the request to the PA Department of Education for Act 80 Exceptions for the 2023-2024 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.

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. Rovinski

Vote: 9-0-0

Comments: The resignation of six (6) certified personnel, the retirement of one (1) certified personnel, the resignation of six (6) non-certified staff. It is also being presented the employment of one (1) administrator, twenty-seven (27) certified personnel, fifteen (15) Long Term Substitutes, ten (10) Non-Certified Staff, One (1) unpaid leave, one (1) sabbatical, two (2) unpaid child-rearing leave, and two (2) Family Medical Leave.

2. 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 2023-2024 school year.*

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 9-0-0

Comments: Dr. Barber stated PDE is still requiring districts to have a Health and Safety Plan. There are no changes to the Health and Safety Plan.

3. Board Policy – Mr. Bentivegna

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the following policies for second reading:*

- ❖ 217 Graduation Requirements*
- ❖ 235 Student Rights*
- ❖ 815 Internet Use*
- ❖ 915 Booster Organizations*
- ❖ 916 Volunteers*
- ❖ E7 Political Activities*
- ❖ E16 Conflict of Interest*

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 9-0-0

Comments: *Mr. Bentivegna stated the above policies were approved for First Reading in June. No changes were made since June.*

4. Special Education Agreement – Dr. Barber

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board agree and accept the proposed Settlement, Waiver, and Release Agreement for student “8312”.*

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

Comments: *Dr. Barber stated that with all special education agreements, the details cannot be discussed in a public setting.*

5. Independent Contractor Agreement – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the agreement between Springfield School District and independent contractor, Ben White (Licensed Social Worker), to provide clinical services for the Springfield School District. This Agreement is for the 2023-2024 school year not to exceed \$44,400.*

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

Comments: *This is a replacement contractor as the previous contractor no longer provides services to the District.*

6. Independent Contractor Agreement – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the agreement between Springfield School District and independent contractor, Jeanne Vollrath (Licensed Occupational Therapist), to provide clinical services for the Springfield School District. This Agreement is for the 2023-2024 school year not to exceed \$79,403.63.*

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

Comments: *This is also a replacement contractor as the previous contractor no longer provides services to the District.*

7. Real Estate Tax Assessment Settlement – Mr. Lord

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

- ❖ *Folio No. 42-00-00512-00, 1300 Baltimore Pike, Springfield Township*
Appealed from assessment/fair market value of the above property:

**Springfield School District
Board Meeting Minutes – August 24, 2023**

For tax year 2021, an assessment of \$7,250,000 and a fair market value of \$7,250,000.

For tax year 2022, an assessment of \$8,000,000 and a fair market value of \$8,000,000.

For tax year 2023, an assessment of \$6,552,000, and a fair market value of \$9,000,000.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$1,307,580 below the 2021 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$25,954 to our District for tax year 2021.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$557,580 below the 2022 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$11,394 to our District for tax year 2022.

This proposed resolution is a decrease of \$2,005,580 below the 2023 assessment and yields a tax dollar decrease of approximately \$42,193 to our District for tax year 2023.

- ❖ *Folio No. 42-00-00412-00, 1141 Baltimore Pike, Springfield Township*

Appealed from assessment/ fair market value of the above property:

For tax year 2021, an assessment of \$1,400,000 and a fair market value of \$1,400,000.

For tax year 2022, an assessment of \$1,550,000 and a fair market value of \$1,550,000.

For tax year 2023, an assessment of \$1,164,800, and a fair market value of \$1,600,000.

For tax year 2024, an assessment of \$1,052,800 and a fair market value of \$1,600,000.

This proposed resolution is an increase of \$688,970 above the 2021 assessment and yields a tax dollar gain of approximately \$13,675 to our District for tax year 2021.

This proposed resolution is an increase of \$838,970 above the 2022 assessment and yields a tax dollar gain of approximately \$17,144 to our District for tax year 2022.

This proposed resolution is an increase of \$838,970 above the 2023 assessment and yields a tax dollar gain of approximately \$9,546 to our District for tax year 2023.

**Springfield School District
Board Meeting Minutes – August 24, 2023**

This proposed resolution is an increase of \$341,770 above the 2024 assessment and yields a tax dollar gain of approximately \$7,190 to our District for tax year 2024. The approximate tax dollar gain is calculated using the District's 2023 millage rate because the millage rate for 2024 has not yet been determined.

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 9-0-0

Comments: Mr. Lord stated that the district has had many appeals since the 2021 reassessment in Delaware County. Mr. Sereni's office has been working diligently on these appeals which have been very helpful to the District.

8. 2023 Series Bond Financing (ROLL CALL VOTE) – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the proposed Bond Resolution that authorizes the district to pursue the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2023, in an amount up to \$7,000,000. Bond sale is projected to be completed in November 2023.*

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 8-1-0

Comments: The district borrowed \$128 million to build the new high school and used approximately \$122 million. The board decided to move forward with air conditioning the remaining schools which were not conditioned. The remaining bond proceeds have been used to fund these HVAC projects. Mr. Sillo thanked Mr. Mooney for his hard work on this project. Mr. Lord abstained from this vote as his employer works at times issuing bonds. He stated his company has never worked with the Springfield School District.

9. 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 of 2023 General Obligation Bonds to be issued in a maximum aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$7,000,000.*

Motion: Ms. Guy

Second: Ms. Rovinski

Vote: 8-1-0

Motion to add roll call to Item # 9.

Motion: Ms. Rovinski

Second: Ms. Guy

Comments: PFM serves are the District's investment advisor. This is their proposal to help arrange and ultimately sell the bond's.

10. ETR Middle School and Sabold Elementary School Mechanical Work Change Order Approval – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the following change orders # 1, 2, and 3 for \$71,648.71 for electrical revisions, chimney repair, and additional concrete work for work performed by the general contractors and electrical contractor for HVAC installation work provided at ETR Middle School and Sabold Elementary School.*

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

Motion: Ms. Rovinski Second: Ms. Rechner Vote: 9-0-0

Comments: These are three changes to work that was completed over the 2023 summer.

11. ETR Middle School Mechanical Work and Capital Asset Project Management Services – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the proposal received from the CID Group in the amount not to exceed of \$299,766 for project management services related to the installation of the HVAC systems being installed at ETR Middle School and various capital asset projects that will be completed during 2023-2024.*

The proposed fees will be billed each month on an hourly basis for actual hours incurred.

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

Comments: The CID has worked with SSD for 18 years now. In addition to the project at ETR and the service life extension plan. Ms. Lofland stated the timeframe in their proposal was incorrect.

12. Summer 2023-2024 Capital Asset Projects – Mr. Mooney

RECOMMENDATION: *that the Board approves the following proposal from CMT services Group in the amount of \$20,000. Services will include material inspection and testing for the HVAC work being done at ETR Middle School during the summer of 2023 and 2024. The cost of this project will be funded from the Capital Projects Bond proceeds.*

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

Comments: *Mr. Mooney stated CMT will be assisting us with commissioning the equipment at the ETR project.*

F. LIASION REPORTS

1. Solicitor's Report – Mr. Sereni
Mr. Lord introduced Ms. McCarthy from Mr. Sereni's office. Ms. McCarthy does not have a report but welcomed everyone back to the school year.
2. DCIU Board Report – Mrs. Rovinski
The DCIU met in July and August. In July, the Board had to rescind contracts to expand the Folcroft nursing program. They are in the process of looking at alternate sites. DCIU held STEM camps for elementary-aged children and worked with Home Depot to build gardens.
3. DCCC Board Report – Mr. Sillo
Did not meet.
4. Future Board Meetings – September 28, 2023
October 26, 2023
5. Superintendent's Salutations – Dr. Barber
Dr. Barber thanked the maintenance team, the administration team, and the central office team, and the registrar, Christina Miller, in getting the students and buildings ready to begin school. The grounds department consists of three people and work tirelessly to make things look good.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'R' and 'G' followed by a flourish.