

**NO: XIII**  
**Minutes of the**  
**Board of School Directors**  
**DERRY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Hershey, PA 17033**

**January 23, 2012**

**OPENING ITEMS**

**1.01 Call to Order**

A meeting of the Board of School Directors, Derry Township School District was held on Monday, January 23, 2012, in the High School LGI room. Mrs. Ellen Sheffey, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**1.02 Roll Call**

**Directors Present:**

Mr. Christopher Barrett  
Dr. Henry Donahue  
Dr. Donna Cronin  
Mr. John Gräb  
Dr. Mary Beth Hagan  
Mr. Christopher Morelli  
Mrs. Maryellen Sheehan  
Mrs. Ellen Sheffey

**Excused:**

Mr. Bruce Hancock

**Superintendent:**

Dr. Richard Faidley

**Secretary:**

Mr. Stephen Rineer

**Solicitor:**

Mr. Brian Jackson

**Student Representative:**

Mr. Zachary Cole  
Mr. Stephen Haverstick

**Press:**

Mr. Nick Malawsky                      THE PATRIOT-NEWS

**Representatives of the Administrative Staff:** Mr. Dan Tredinnick, Ms. Lori Dixon, Mr. Ed Consalo, and Mr. Al Harding.

**Representatives of the Staff and Community:** Shelly Tire, David E. Fisher, Joseph Judge, Jonas Sheehan, Mike Kinney, Rebecca Liesch, Eileen Gilmore, Russell E. Gilmore, Denise Liesch, Jenn Forester, Olivia Forester, Jessica Forester, Daniel K. Kulig, Barbara Clouser, Denise Oggero, Jena Funck, Casey Willis, Brian Shiflett, P. Colleen Hennessey, Heidi Eby, Megan G. Hulse, Kathleen S. McKinney-Gavazzi, J. Bruce McKinney, Sarah H. McKinney, Robert L. Gavazzi, B. Doghower, Teresa Umberger

Mrs. Sheffey: I'd like to announce that Mr. Hancock has an excused absence this evening.

### **1.03 Flag Salute**

Mr. Gräb led those gathered in the Salute to the American Flag.

### **1.04 School Board Recognition**

Dr. Faidley: With things that are going on, it's their job to work with me as the Superintendent to guide the direction of the education of our students in our community and to provide the resources and make those difficult decisions as a Board that continue to make sure that the direction of the District and the financial stability of the District is in good hands. I think they deserve a round of applause for all of the work they do on a daily basis. Thank you, Madame President.

Mrs. Sheffey: Thank you, Dr. Faidley. Just speaking for myself, I think this is an incredibly rewarding position and I just want to thank you all for putting me in this position.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **2.01 Approval of January 9, 2012 School Board Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Barrett and seconded by Dr. Donahue to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2012 School Board Meeting Minutes. All Board members present signified by a Yes vote.

## **MOTION CARRIED**

## **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

### **3.01 Announcement of Executive Session**

Mrs. Sheffey: I would like to announce that the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss employment issues, consultation with our attorney, and other matters that must be conducted in private to protect the lawful privilege or confidentiality.

### **3.02 Recognition of Citizens (Agenda Items)**

None.

### **3.03 Student Representatives' Report**

Mr. Cole: Thank you Madame President. Good evening, Board. We'd like to start off this evening by thanking everyone personally for the delayed start. It's always a glorious way to start a Monday.

We'll move on to the real news now. Two weeks ago, in the Patriot-News column, Ms. Anne McGraw Reeves ran a piece recounting Stall Day, which occurred the first day back from break, so that was a great piece and great publicity for the just over \$2,600 that was raised for the Jonathan Eshenour Memorial Trail.

In other news tonight, the homework survey that was put online the 16<sup>th</sup> for parents – it's been very well received by students and parents alike, I think. Students have been kind of peeking at the questions and the great part about the survey is, although it's not geared towards students right now, that will come later, but although it's not geared towards students right now, it's really prompted a lot of great discussions in class and among students and teachers, so it's been really great to see the differing opinions of students and teachers both regarding homework.

Mr. Haverstick: With the second semester underway, it marks new classes for students and a critical time for teachers across the District. In the high school certain departments are looking to revamp and diversify curriculum for upcoming years, particularly in the English Department student input is being sought with this review process. I know Zach and I have a common English teacher that is actually having each one of his students research and gather different courses from different high school websites and college websites and then post that on Moodle where he is then sharing that with his department in the curriculum meeting, so there are encouraging steps going on in the high school.

That concludes our report.

Mrs. Sheffey: Thank you.

### **3.04 Standing Committee Reports**

Mrs. Sheffey: Today the Finance Standing Committee met. Mr. Gräb, do you have a report?

Mr. Gräb: Yes, Madame President, I do. Thank you. We had three items on the agenda this afternoon. The first one was a presentation by Mr. Verdelli on the opportunity to refund some municipal bonds. These are our 2007 issues with the Derry Township Industrial Commercial Development Authority, and I think Mr. Verdelli is going to give us a more in depth presentation later, so I won't delve into the specifics there.

Secondly, we talked about, and the key two words here are proposed, preliminary budget. Due to Act 1 which was passed by the General Assembly "x" number of years ago, we must publish a proposed preliminary budget a certain number of days prior to the primary election. The primary election this year has been moved forward several weeks due to the fact it is a presidential election, so we will be voting on a proposed preliminary budget this evening. We have between now and the 27<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> of June to come up with a final budget, and I can guarantee you the Administration will be looking over this with a fine tooth comb and revising it and coming back to us with a final budget in June. When you see the numbers tonight, don't panic. It's only a proposed preliminary budget.

The third thing we discussed this evening was the Phase II middle school project. If you remember in the past, we had talked about adding 18-20 additional classrooms to the middle school. However, the Administration, looking at what we consider historical and projected data looking forward, seem to think that we might be able to get by with a less expensive addition to the middle school. Rather than floating a bond for \$18 million dollars to add those classrooms onto the middle school, the Administration has come forward with a proposal which we talked about in depth in the Finance Committee meeting today that would necessitate the addition of what would be called an "administrative addition" to the middle school taking the present middle school offices and converting those into classrooms. The cost of this project rather than \$18 million dollars in a bond issue will be about \$4 million dollars at this point, give or take, as Mr. Consalo likes to say. We think at this point in time we have enough money in our capital reserve fund to pay for this addition without incurring any additional debt. We're looking forward to the year 2015 when our current debt payment will decrease somewhat drastically, close to \$1.1 million dollars a year. At that point in time, it

might be the benefit of the people sitting on this Board in 2016-2017 to revisit that addition to the middle school.

For those fellow Board members that were in the Finance Committee meeting with me today, I usually forget something, so please chime in.

Mrs. Sheehan: The roofs. We were going to hold off on the roofs.

Mr. Gräb: Thank you. As Mrs. Sheehan said, we're going to hold off on the addition to the roofs.

Dr. Faidley: In addition to the classroom space, we are looking to replace as part of that cost that was identified, the boilers and chillers at the middle school as they are outdated and they date back to the early 1960s and they are in desperate need of replacement.

Mr. Gräb: Thank you fellow Finance Committee members and Dr. Faidley for that additional information. That is my report, Madame President, thank you.

Mrs. Sheffey: Are there any questions?

The Trojan Foundation met on January 20. Mr. Hancock was in attendance and he e-mailed me his report.

The Trojan Foundation met Friday, January 26. Key to the Foundation fundraising is the annual Taste of Hershey event. The date for the Taste of Hershey fundraising event has been set. It will be April 1, 2012 at the Hershey Lodge. The event planning committee will be meeting this week to prepare event details and to finalize publicity plans. The committee also discussed potential projects to receive funds from the Foundation, and they also discussed expanding the committee roster along with the opportunity for the group to expand its scope to include activities around advocacy supporting the District.

I think Dr. Faidley was also at that meeting, so if anybody has any questions, they can direct them to Dr. Faidley.

### **3.05 Twenty-First Century Learning Environment Presentation**

Casey Willis/Jena Funck: I'm Casey Willis and this is Jena Funck and we are both 5<sup>th</sup> grade time teachers with promethean boards in our classrooms.

We'd like to take the opportunity tonight to tell you how grateful we are for the technology that this District has provided for us. It's really changed our instruction in the classroom and we brought some of our students along with us tonight. They are really excited to share with you how it's impacted their learning.

First, I'm going to have two of my students from my classroom come on up and they are going to share with you an online learning tool that we're using.

Student 1: Hi. My name is Patrick. I am a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student in Mrs. Funck's room, and I'm going to tell you about Edmodo. If you don't know, Edmodo is a social networking site that I can use for educational purposes.

Student 2: Hi. I like Edmodo, because I can go on the site that my teacher posts in and out of school. My parents can check on what I've been doing on Edmodo, and I can also check my homework, because Mrs. Funck posts nightly homework.

Student 1: Our teacher can give us assignments that we can turn in and she can grade us on them. We can also ask our teacher and classmates questions. We can join groups, like a reading group, and see what projects and assignments our teacher has assigned for that group.

Student 3: Hello. My name is Jessica Forrester from Mrs. Willis' class and through Edmodo we started to use a tool called Glogster EDU. If you don't know what Glogster is, it is an interactive online post. We can share our glogs with our teachers and classmates. These are some ways we have been using it.

Student 4: Good evening. My name is Emily Leish and now that you learned a bit about Glogster EDU, here are some projects we have been working on. Each reading group was assigned a topic to create a glog. Some of the topics are reading vocabulary, renaissance art, and famous artwork. My classmates and I really enjoy creating glogs, because it is a fun way to express our feelings.

Student: Do you have any questions?

Dr. Hagan: I have one. Was it, you guys are really good at computers, and we're really really bad. Was it hard to learn? Was it hard to figure out? Did it take you guys a little bit of time?

Student: It did and after a while it became very easy to use.

Dr. Hagan: Do you think we could do it?

Student: Ummm...I don't know.

Dr. Hagan: That's okay. You don't have to answer that question.

Mr. Gräb: I mentioned to Mrs. Sheffey, I was so thankful we didn't have the internet access when I was a student. When you go home and your parents say, did you have any homework, and your response is no, we didn't have any today and they go online and they find that you do, what kind of a discussion do we have? I would venture a guess that none of you four students would do anything like that, but you always have to worry about the person in your class.

Mrs. Sheffey: You don't have to answer that question.

Dr. Cronin: I just have a question about the amount of different subjects that you are on the computer with during a typical day. How often are you able to log in and make it be applicable to the subject at hand? Is it one subject? All subjects? Something in between?

Student: We mostly use it for reading.

Dr. Cronin: And then as a follow up, do you find that being able to do your homework online, that it makes you spend more time with it, or less, or the same?

Student: I definitely think it's more fun, because it's more interactive instead of just having a piece of paper and writing down the answers like on a study link.

Dr. Cronin: Thank you.

Mrs. Sheffey: So compared to last year when you didn't have a Glogster, do you think you're learning more or you're learning about the same? Sounds like you're enjoying it more for sure.

Student: Well, we're probably learning more about how to use things, so I would probably say that we're learning more than last year, because we get to interact with things online.

Mrs. Sheffey: Excellent. Any other questions? Do the teachers want to have any closing comments?

Mrs. Willis/Mrs. Funck: We just really want to say thank you. This year has been a big year for our classrooms – really getting the kids involved in using the educational, the Edmodo and the Glogster. It's new for us and the kids have just ran with it and they're loving it and we're loving the products that we're getting. It wouldn't be possible without the technology that's been provided, so thank you.

They have shown us a thing or two too. We do these and I'm like, how did you get this background? They will go home with this and they play around and

come in with all these fun things. They'll even make them not about architecture. Emily, you made one about what?

Student: Ice skating.

Mrs. Willis/Mrs. Funck: Ice skating. She's like, check out my glog on ice skating. They're using it for other things as well and we really appreciate it. Anyone could try it. It's fun.

Mrs. Sheffey: Excellent. Thank you all. So are they excused from homework tonight?

Student: We did our homework.

Mrs. Sheffey: Oh, good. That's why you were asked to come.

Male Voice: I would add that I was in a workshop just two weeks ago when one of the 12 year old students taught a 50 year old educator how to do a glog. We could maybe hook up one of these students with some of you on the Board and you can have a Board glog.

Mrs. Sheffey: I think John is interested.

### **3.06 Presentation - Hershey Community Youth Alliance**

Mike Kinney: Good evening. It's Barb and I's pleasure to introduce two students that have been working together for a couple years now, but this year they're in the leadership role of a group called the Hershey Community Youth Alliance. They are going to tell you a little bit about what they've already done, what they're planning on doing and then seek input that you might have to help them do it a little bit better, but at this point I'd like to introduce Paul Lyons and Vishnu Patel.

Paul Lyons/Vishnu Patel: Good evening. We're here from the Hershey Community Youth Alliance. We would like to thank Senor Clouser. She's the student council advisor from the Hershey side and Mr. Mike Kinney. He's also like our coordinator for HCYA and he works in communications over in Milton Hershey School.

Okay. Just a quick bit about us. I'm Vishnu Patel. I go to Hershey right here. Little things I do, I am Vice President of my class, of National Honor Society. I participate in clubs like FBLA, Future Business Leaders of America, Youth and Government that sort of stuff.

Again, I'm Paul Lyons and I'm the Milton Hershey School Student Body President. I also participate in HCYA, [not audible], and I also participate in Track and Field and National Honor Society as well.

This is the technical mission statement for the HCYA and it is "to create a student led group that will promote an environment of civility and collaboration between Hershey High School and Milton Hershey High School.

Now we're going to talk about just a few things that the HCYA has done and not only this school year, but the end of last school year. We participated in the Habitat for Humanity Walk which took place in May. Students from both school and also people from the Harrisburg community and local communities around, we all went out and we participated in that. In Harrisburg, at City Island, we walked about 3 miles. It was a really long walk. It's a little later, but we're planning on doing that again this year.

Another thing that we've done this year and in past years was in October we participated in the Crop Walk and we managed to raise a lot of money this year. We ended up donating a \$1,000 check towards the group. We also noticed that since we started joining, three years ago, their participation has also skyrocketed. We have some statistics.

In addition to all the other things we've done so far, we also participated in our third annual student exchange between Milton Hershey School and Hershey High School where we brought 40 students from each school and we swapped, so it was 10 freshman, 10 sophomores, seniors and juniors as well. They just shadowed each other for the day so they could get the feel for Milton Hershey and Hershey High. There is always that rival, because of the Cocoa Bean, so it's just always nice to get to know each other outside of the football field. That was one of our best events by helping bring the two schools together.

Just a quick thing about our meetings. We generally have two types of meetings. We have the Presidents and the advisor kind of meetings when we try to meet once a month definitely and we then we have large group meetings where we take everybody involved with HCYA, which is basically around 15-20 students from Hershey and a part of student council and 15-20 students from Milton Hershey. Our next meeting is actually coming up on Wednesday. It's going to be here. It's going to be one of those large group meetings and we're going to start to lay down a lot of our end of the year, big events, which we'll be talking about a little bit later on.

So since we talked about some of the events that we did, we thought it only would be right to show you guys a few pictures as evidence that we're not making this up. As we talked about the check, you can see up there presenting the check of \$1,000. There's also pictures of people who came out from the community. It wasn't just a Hershey thing or just a Milton Hershey thing. It was

actually opened up to the whole community and anybody was welcome to donate as well. We had had the mascot come out and represent Milton Hershey. I don't know where Hershey's mascot was this year, but our mascot showed up.

These are some pictures from the student exchange. Basically the way it works is we do it over two days. On one day the sophomores and juniors from one school would go to the other school while the freshman – I mean the seniors and juniors from one school would go to the other school while the freshman and sophomores went to the other school. Here are a couple photos with a lot of the Hershey students interacting with the people from Milton Hershey and vice versa.

One of our upcoming events, these aren't really our big group events, these are a lot of the community service events that we're looking for is the Bethesda Mission. In the past it's normally groups of about 10 students, maybe 8 students and we go down to the Bethesda Mission in Harrisburg. Sometimes it's the men's and sometimes it's the women's – it depends. Basically what we do when we go down there is for the women's side we go and we help cook meals for them. We cooked this giant meal the one year, we all made jello, some fried chicken, all sorts of stuff. We had a salad. It was a lot of fun and then afterwards we all go out to eat McDonalds. It's a great time. For the men's side when go over down to the men's shelter down there, the food is generally prepared by the cooks they have there, but we get to help serve it out to everyone. It's nice, because afterwards we sit down and start to interact with all the people there. It's a great way to sort of interact with your community and bring the two schools together.

This year we're starting something new. We're looking into the PA Food Bank and looking into getting out there to help them out. It will be a way for us to open up to new things aside from Bethesda Mission which we tend to do every year, so the PA Food Bank will be something new. I know we're talking a lot about food, but you have to remember that we did the crop walk and the Habitat for Humanity Walk, so we just want to let you know we're getting in our exercise.

We're also looking into the Derry Township Parks and Recreation and we plan on helping out with the local [not audible], because there was a lot of damage done, especially with the floods so we're looking into helping out our community as well as communities that are located locally.

We've actually already gotten into contact with some of the people over there in charge and they are really excited. So when the snow clears up, unfortunately, hopefully it doesn't, well actually in the spring time we'll go out and go ahead and start helping.

The other thing that we talked about is we're talking about donating to international causes. We're now backed by the Rotary Club this year, so we have affiliations with them. They come to our meetings and they have different

ideas about ways we can give to the international side. One thing we're definitely trying to do is we're trying to send money to different places like the Red Cross and things like that, like internationally and things like that.

Some upcoming events that we plan on doing to bring together that collaboration between both schools is an upcoming talent show. We plan to hold this in the springtime and it would be open, not only to the two schools again, but to the entire Hershey community and any local communities around. We plan to have about 20 acts, so 10 acts from both schools – 10 different acts. We're also thinking about a cost and if there were to be a cost, we would donate it to a charity of our choice. It wouldn't be anything too high, but it would be a small cost.

Another one of the events we're thinking about is every year the Hershey High School holds a mini-thon, so we're definitely looking into trying to get some of the Milton Hershey students to come on over and join in with us. Right now we're working with the Key Club and seeing how we can go ahead and make this thing possible.

The other event that we have that we're thinking about is in May perhaps. In middle school, everybody's favorite event every day was field day, so we're thinking about having a field day between the two schools. Basically you would have, like each team would be made up of "x" number of people from both schools, "x" number of males and females. We're planning it probably around either the Henry Hershey field or Founders Park and we're going to have events such as a couple track events, we'll end with a tug of war, and we'll have some prizes at the end. It's just a great way to get everybody from both schools to come out and meet with each other and interact.

Are there any questions?

Mrs. Sheffey: Anybody questions or comments?

Dr. Hagan: Great job guys. It seems like all the students have a lot of fun too. Would you say that is true?

Students: Yes.

Dr. Hagan: I had a question about Thon at the Milton Hershey School. Do you have your own little mini thon there? Had you had that already separately?

Student: No we never had anything like that so that's why, since this is the first year, we would prefer to have it over here so they already know what they're doing so we would be newbies to it.

Dr. Hagan: That would be great.

Barb Clouser: Just to clarify on that. These are all ideas right now. We work with Key Club is actually in charge of Thon, so no. They've got great ideas, huge ideas, we just have to – we're really in the planning stages. A lot of what we're going to do on Wednesday is talk about how we can bring some of things to fruition.

Dr. Hagan: Sure. I think what you're doing is wonderful. I really do. It's very exciting, and I think it's been a long time in coming, and I think it has a wonderful future. You guys are a fabulous example of the leadership that we have in young people, so kudos to you. Job well done. Continue doing what you're doing. The world is in good hands with you guys.

Students: Thank you.

Dr. Cronin: Just a quick question. I think it was four years ago when this group started and when they presented. It was very impressive and obviously continues to grow. In fact I think it was Matt Kinney was one of the founding members and he's now a senior in college, so it's nice to see the younger students catching on. My question is have you been able to increase your numbers of participation over the last four years and what are you doing to try to even make it grow even further so that more kids know about it rather than you guys doing all the work?

Students: One of the big things is definitely the student exchange and things like that. We started off with mainly, when we did our events such as the Bethesda Mission, mainly people who were in the club went and did it. That's how it was mainly like the first year, year and a half. But now we're getting a lot more students who aren't necessarily a part of the club and things like that. Especially with the student exchange, almost all the people that participated, we took applications from the Hershey side and they're just super excited to go and interact. We had students afterwards write up their responses from it and they were incredibly positive. A lot of the students enjoyed it, so we're just trying to get the word out and make ourselves bigger this year with these events that we're talking about later on – that way for upcoming years, we'll start to publicize more, we'll get more students that aren't part of the club.

Mrs. Clouser: This is right now, on the Hershey side of things, run through student council. I took over the student council this year, so we kind of hit the ground running with this. I'm working with Mr. Kinney and we are looking at making this a totally individual club next year where student council, yes we'll play a part in it, but it's going to be open to anybody who wants to participate from Hershey side of things to get as many people as we can and make it more of a community thing. I have already spoken to Mr. Murphy about seeing where we can go with this in the future.

Students: Through Milton Hershey, it's kind of set up a little differently. They kind of have the leeway over here to set it up as an individual club whereas we have our executive branch of student government – all those members. As soon as you're picked for that spot after you fill out your application and everything, you're automatically assumed as a HCYA member, but it doesn't automatically mean that you can be president or that you can be vice president or anything like that. That doesn't automatically mean that you're the only that can participate in HCYA events, but it's just that the Milton Hershey students are part of that executive branch over there. They are the ones that will be planning for HCYA, but then we also open it up to the Milton Hershey school community for other students to participate as well.

Dr. Cronin: Excellent. Thank you.

Mr. Cole (Zach??): I'd just like to comment on this very quickly, because I'm a member of this as well. Just responding to Dr. Cronin's question. The class of 2012, which is who we are here, we are the last founding members essentially of this group, so it's kind of sad to let this go, because we will be gone and this is our baby. I think since it's began, we've really seen it evolve into such a great group. A group that really much larger than what it started as, and it's great as well to see students just from two very different schools, very different backgrounds come together through collaborative community service. Contrary to popular belief, I am a very sensitive guy, and it is a beautiful experience to watch that happen, so I hope it does continue to happen for a very long time.

Mr. Gräb: Thank you gentlemen very much for coming forward. When I first arrived in Hershey in 1967 there were two groups of students. There were the townies and the [not audible] and you could very easily have called them oil and water, because they just didn't mix. It's amazing to see what's occurred over the past 45 years to see a representative of Hershey High School and a representative of Milton Hershey School standing next to each other doing collaborative things for the community.

As a side note, as President of the local Kiwanis Club who happens to sponsor the Hershey High Key Club, we would be more than willing to welcome you guys back to our mini thon.

Mrs. Sheffey: Excellent. Any other comments?

Mr. Morelli: I just want to echo the comments of all the other Board members. I think this group is probably one of the most important groups in both schools. I'd like to see this community – a community of one set of students and not two. You guys are off to a great start. Now you've tackled that chore, which is a huge chore, but in it, in your activities, you're also helping charities and other folks outside the community and soon around the world, which is incredible. Just one

last question, I'm assuming both of you participated in the student exchange and I'd just like to know who has the best cafeteria?

Students: Well, for setup, we have the best cafeteria, but for food, Hershey wins.

Students: It was funny, when we had students come over, I took Paul around and took Sheron Townson. I was helping with two people at the time. They went up, two drinks, two sandwiches, fries, I think they both got a cookie. Their trays were stacked. Then when we went over to Milton Hershey, every person I was talking to said, don't worry about the food. Everything's great here, except for the food. The students – their only negative side was the food.

Mrs. Sheffey: Excellent. Thank you gentlemen. It's always a pleasure to hear from our students.

Students: Thank you.

### **3.07 Presentation - Municipal Bonds Refunding**

Mr. Verdelli: Good evening everyone. That is a pretty inspiring presentation, and as you know, I get around to a lot of school districts and hear a lot of new ideas. When I see that type of interaction and what we all about the budgetary constraints and pressure that I think everyone is going to continue to face in the Pennsylvania education landscape, I'm just wondering if there's not more opportunities for more collaborative resource sharing more at the Board level and in the classroom when we think about the two great schools here just a mile away from one another and some of those opportunities. I know I recently saw a pretty unique presentation down in Lancaster where three of the school districts are working on some resource sharing. I think, obviously, with what we're all hearing out of Harrisburg, we're going to need to find that place in a few years and so that seems like a pretty good place to start.

But, anyway, what I'm here to talk about is, hopefully, saving the School District some money in the bond debt service department. The opportunity that we have is 100% driven by low interest rates. Most of you are probably aware of how low interest rates have gone, so the presentation that you have before you; I'll give you a little of background on rates and we'll talk about which issue it is that we have the opportunity to refinance. I'm assuming everyone has this. We had passed it out to some folks earlier at the Finance Committee meeting.

On Page 1 – this is the chart that many of you have seen before. It's a history of interest rates in the municipal bond market. On the left side, you can see that the chart starts back in January of 1970 and it goes across the right where the arrows are all pointing in the lower right corner of the box and that's showing you that with 41 years of data, we have interest rates now that are absolutely at the

lowest point during that 41 year period. It is a very unique time in the market and a unique opportunity that we have for this refinancing. As you know, the old issues come up on their call dates and that's really when we can first get into the market and so this issue is reaching it's call date and market conditions could not be any better than where we're at right now.

On Page 2 – this is the summary of the School District's debt service payments. Certainly most of you have seen this before and we always pay attention to the structure of the District's overall debt. In fact, there was the reference on your previous discussion about the District's overall debt service. You can see that over in the far right column 8 how we have it structured and that it does taper off significantly when we get to the year 2016 with that drop from about \$6 million to \$5 million. That just confirms that reference that I heard a little bit earlier. What we're focused on is the far left column. It's highlighted in yellow for you. The ICDA Series of 2007 bond issue and down at the bottom you can see the call date is May 15<sup>th</sup> of this year, so that's the current refunding opportunity that we have.

On Page 3 – to review the highlights and give you just a little bit of the background on it. This issue is different than all the District's other issues, because it was actually issued by the Township of Derry Industrial and Commercial Development Authority as opposed to being issued actually by the School District. This debt dates back to 2002. It was the renovation to the middle school, I'm sorry, our old middle school where I went to school, the Granada Building, and it was the addition of the Admin building and the renovation of the gym and some renovations to the maintenance building around the back. The original issue was \$4,125,000 and right now there is \$3,040,000 left of this issue and the interest rates are substantially higher than what's available in the market today. You can see there, they range from 3.7% to 4%. I had mentioned already the call date is coming up on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

For those that are not familiar with the way this issue works: it was issued by the ICDA. The School District pays the majority of the debt service on it – 81% since the majority of the project was for the benefit of the School District. The Township pays about 19% of the debt service. The way that is handled is it's billed to the Township on a semi-annual basis, when the debt service payments come due, Mr. Rineer sends a bill over to the Township and they send their portion in for the debt service. That's the way it was set up in 2002. We refinanced it 5 years ago in 2007, and here we are on the call date again in 2012.

The second bullet point we spent a little bit more time talking about this in the Finance Committee meeting today, but it is our recommendation for the School District to issue the debt this time. Obviously, the majority of the debt it yours and our recommendation is really for two reasons. One, we think you could substantially lower interest rates in the current market by issuing school district general obligation debt and (2) there will be far fewer parties involved in the

transaction where previously we had the Township involved and the Authority involved and the School District. We expect the issuance cost to be significantly lower under this structure. The new issue will have the same exact maturity date as the old issue. There's about 11 years left on the original debt. It pays off in the year 2023, so there will be no change there.

On the third bullet point based on today's interest rates, the total savings is about \$200,000. The debt service would be reduced and the breakdown of that is about \$160,000 would be the School District's share of that and that debt service reduction would occur in next year's budget, the 2013 year, and about \$40,000 of that savings would be lowering the Township's portion of their payment later this year.

Timeline would be with the authorization of the Board to authorize the Finance team to move forward work with your Administration to get the credit rating updated and get the legal documents together. We would hope to, if everything goes according to plan, we've kind of rushed the plan a bit here to try to get to market due to these incredibly low interest rates. We hope to be back to you at your February 13 meeting where we would have live interest rates to lock in and a final amount of savings to report back. That's when you would actually vote to incur the debt and pass a debt resolution. We would have settlement on March 15<sup>th</sup> then.

Any questions on the overview or I could do a quick review of the numbers, if you'd like that or not?

Dr. Cronin: I have a quick question. I didn't have the advantage of being in the Finance Committee, but the 200 total savings, it looks like it's broken down for this coming fiscal year, how is the savings all seen for this coming fiscal year? That's, it's an upfront savings, it's not spread out over the course of the remaining . . .

Mr. Verdelli: That's right.

Dr. Cronin: . . . now through 2023?

Mr. Verdelli: Good question. On Page, if you continue through the handout and it goes to numbers, and you'll see page numbers in the upper right corner. If you turn to Page 4 is where we actually have the savings shown where we compare the old payments with the new payments, so as we've typically structured the debt taking the savings over the next couple of years in this case, we have the \$200,000 reduction. It's a onetime reduction in the debt service next year. Then the payments would go back to approximately what they are today.

Dr. Cronin: And that's just the way it's done?

Mr. Verdelli: Typically.

Dr. Cronin: Okay.

Mr. Verdelli: That's the normal way is to reduce the payment.

Dr. Cronin: A lump sum.

Mr. Verdelli: What we did do on some of the refunding that were larger last year, we scheduled those savings over three years to try and carve down this hump of the debt service that we're on right now.

Dr. Cronin: So that's all you have control over?

Mr. Verdelli: That's right.

Dr. Cronin: Okay. I get it. No problem. Thank you.

Mrs. Sheffey: Any other questions?

Mr. Gräb: I think it's important to point to the Board if they take a look at the page that has the current interest rates and the page that has the refinanced interest rates and the shock value of the difference.

Mr. Verdelli: That's right. If you turn to the first page of numbers, it's Page 1. This is the bonds as they are right now the way they were issued in 2007 and the rates that were actually really good back in 2007 are shown in the third column labeled coupon. They range from 3.7% to 4%. That's what we have the opportunity to refinance and replace those. If you flip two pages back to Page 3, there in that same third column, you can see today's market rates ranging from 0.6 out to 2.75, so that dramatic reduction going from the high rates of roughly 4 down to on average a little over 2 is what creates such significant savings.

I should point out, again, it's only \$3 million dollars of debt. We've talked about hundreds of thousands of savings before that we were creating by refinancing \$8 or \$9 million dollars of debt. It's that dramatic drop in interest rates that allows us to create \$200,000 is pretty significant on an issue that's only \$3 million dollars with only 10-11 years left. That's a good point that we looked at that.

Dr. Cronin: Another question. Just comparing those same two pages with the current debt the total interest comes out to be \$772,000 and then with the lower rates, the total interest is \$427,000, but we're only saving 200.

Mr. Verdelli: Good question. Go to the very last page in the numbers and on any refinancing transaction that always happens, because we're paying off a fixed amount of bonds, but we have issuance costs that we have to pay for, so you're

actually borrowing additional money, but because you're borrowing additional funds at such a lower interest rate, when you compare the debt service payments on the new borrowing to the old, you're still lowering your payments by \$200,000. So, these are the estimated issuance costs. I expect they'll probably be a little bit lower than this and of course when we come back in February we'll have all of them broken out between legal fees and credit rating fees and so forth.

Dr. Cronin: And are they based on a percent of the amount or are they fixed rates?

Mr. Verdelli: Some are fixed and some are based on the actual size of the borrowing. Things like legal fees, whether you're doing a \$2 million dollar issue or a \$10 million dollar issue, they have to do the same amount of work to put that together.

Dr. Cronin: And is there ever a discount for, like, when you get a refinancing discount on title insurance, because this is every five years. Is there ever any discount?

Mr. Verdelli: We have been getting, because you just did an issue last year, things like the credit rating fee, you're considered a frequent issuer because you issued debt last year. So, there are some of those costs that, yes, we have gotten a reduced rate whereas a district that's not in the market for a couple of years has a different fee schedule.

Dr. Cronin: Thank you.

Mrs. Sheffey: This will be on, it's on the agenda tonight to vote, so if you have any other questions, this is your last chance. Okay?

Mr. Verdelli: The resolution authorizes our firm and your bond counsel, Rhodes & Sinon to work with the Administration to prepare everything. It does also have a minimum amount of savings that, if for some reason interest rates increased and we were only going to save \$75,000, we would kind of stop the presses and not move forward, so it does have that minimum savings of \$125,000.

Mrs. Sheffey: Okay, thank you Mr. Verdelli.

Mr. Verdelli: You're welcome.

Mrs. Sheffey: Dr. Faidley, can you be sure to schedule a meeting with Mr. Negley so we can just be sure that they are on the same page? I'm assuming they're going to want to save money, but let's . . .

Dr. Faidley: Yes, I will make sure that's taken care of.

Mrs. Sheffey: Thank you.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **4.01 Unfinished Business**

Mr. Barrett: Madame President, a request under Unfinished Business? The Administration recommended changing the Communication Ad Hoc Committee to a permanent Standing Committee?

Mrs. Sheffey: May I have a motion to approve having a Standing Committee for Communications?

Dr. Hagan: So moved.

Mrs. Sheffey: Dr. Hagan. Second?

Mr. Barrett: Second.

Mrs. Sheffey: Mr. Barrett. Is there any discussion? Okay, I would just like to say that I think that this is a priority for our District; that we are doing a lot of good things, but we are not doing a very good job with communicating it. We need to have better dialogue with our constituents, so I think this is a great idea. Mr. Rineer this is a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

## **MOTION CARRIED**

Mrs. Sheehan: I just wanted to make a comment that the first Committee for the Communications Committee will be meeting on Thursday of this week, the 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 in the small conference room in the District Offices.

Mrs. Sheffey: Thank you.

Mrs. Sheehan: A.M. – 8:15 a.m.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**5.01 Authorization to Proceed with Bond Funding**

The Board of School Directors of the Derry Township School District authorized the Administration to work with RBC Capital Markets, as bond underwriter, and Rhoads & Sinon, as bond counsel, to prepare the necessary documents for refinancing the Township of Derry Industrial and Commercial Development Authority’s Guaranteed School Revenue Bonds, Series of 2007. The minimum amount of net savings for the transaction to proceed is \$125,000.

Mr. Gräb moved the Board approve the authorization to proceed with bond funding and was seconded by Dr. Hagan.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.02 Approval of Finance Report for December 2011**

The Administration recommended the approval of the December 2011 Finance Report as listed.

1.	The Treasurer's Report for the month ending December 31, 2011 was summarized as follows:	
	• General Fund Revenues	\$2,435,405
	• General Fund Expenditures	5,222,183
	• Balance of Cash Plus Investments (Includes \$4,762,608 Capital Reserve)	29,619,173
2.	The listed schedule of investment transactions for the period beginning December 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 had total interest earnings of \$4,985 comprised of the following:	
	• General Fund	38

	• Money Market	4,026
	• Capital Reserve	783
	• PA Local Government Investment Trust	138
The average interest rate for December 2011 was .20%		
3.	The December 2011 expenditures for the paid bills for all funds totaled \$2,275,450 excluding net payroll, retirement contributions, and debt service.	
4.	The January 2012 expenditures for the unpaid bills for all funds totaled \$451,101.	
5.	The estimated expenditures of the General Fund for the month of January 2012 were in the following amounts:	
	• Operating Expenses	1,000,000
	• Utilities	121,000
	• Net Payroll (2 Pays)	1,312,000
	• Employer Provided Insurance	436,400
	• Payroll Deductions	671,000
	• Employer Payroll Taxes (FICA/RET)	151,700
	• Debt Service	<u>0</u>
	<b>Total Estimated Expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,692,100</b>

Dr. Donahue moved the Board approve the Finance Report and was seconded by Mr. Barrett.

Mrs. Sheehan: I'd just like to add we discussed this at the Finance Committee meeting, there are several reports about 8 of them: expenditure, status reports that are going to be, it's my understanding, made public to the community so they can view them as well. Is that correct?

Mrs. Sheffey: Yes. I think right now they're on the Board only section of Board Docs and we're going to transfer it to the public section of Board Docs.

Mrs. Sheehan: Great, thank you.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

## **MOTION CARRIED**

### **5.03 Budget Transfers**

Section 687 (d) of the Public School Code provides: The Board of School Directors shall have the power to authorize the transfer of any unencumbered balance, or any portion thereof, from one class of expenditures or item, to another, but such action shall be taken only during the last nine (9) months of the Fiscal Year."

The Administration recommended the Board authorize the January 2012 budget transfers.

Dr. Cronin moved the Board approve the budget transfers and was seconded by Dr. Donahue.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

## **MOTION CARRIED**

### **5.04 Derry Township School District Proposed Preliminary General Fund Budget for 2012-2013 School Year**

Be it resolved that the Derry Township School District Proposed Preliminary General Fund Budget, as presented for the school year 2012-2013, be adopted in the amount of \$53,933,642. The general operating expenses includes a

\$300,000 budgetary reserve. It is further resolved that the Derry Township School District Capital Reserve Fund Budget for capital expenditures be adopted in the amount of \$980,000.

Be it further resolved and made known that the adoption of the Proposed Preliminary Budget is in accordance with Section 687 of the School Laws of Pennsylvania, and further, that the authorized said proposed preliminary budget document was made available for public inspection for 20 days beginning January 3, 2012 at the following locations: Hershey Public Library, Derry Township Tax Office, Derry Township Municipal Office, Hershey Public Library, Hershey High School Library, and the District Office.

Dr. Hagan moved the Board approve the Derry Township School District proposed preliminary general fund budget for the 2012-2013 school year and was seconded by Mr. Gräb.

Mr. Gräb: The only comment I would have would be to adjust the date where it's placed on public review from January 3 to January 23.

Mr. Rineer: No, in fact it was placed on public display by January 3.

Mr. Gräb: Oh, it was?

Mr. Rineer: It has to be on public display for 20 days prior to adoption.

Mr. Gräb: Okay, it was placed on display. Okay, thank you.

Mr. Rineer: It was indeed. Actually it's the PDE 2028 and it was on display in all those locations so indicated.

Mrs. Sheffey: That's what we voted on December 5.

Dr. Cronin: Yeah, I just wanted to make a comment. I'm sure it was brought up at the last meeting, but obviously this is a preliminary budget and our timeline is outlined as Mr. Gräb had stated, but I still share many of my fellow Board member's commitment to making sure that the final budget is balanced and, hopefully, without a tax increase, but obviously we have a lot of work to do.

Mrs. Sheffey: Any other comments?

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.05 Request for Payment - Construction Project**

The Administration recommended the approval of the following invoice as reviewed and approved by Mr. Consalo:

	<b>Middle School Expansion (Phase I):</b>	
1.	ECI (General Contractor) Application No. 19 (Final)	\$26,235.91

Dr. Hagan moved the Board approve the payment and was seconded by Dr. Cronin.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.06 Renewal of Clear Choice Energy**

The Administration recommended the approval to renew the contract with Clear Choice Energy from June 1, 2012 through May 31, 2013 with an income of approximately \$42,000. Clear Choice Energy is our Load Response.

Dr. Hagan moved the Board approve the contract renewal and was seconded by Mr. Morelli.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

Mrs. Sheffey: I noticed that the next three agenda items are purchase of buses.

Is anyone opposed to consolidating them? So, can I have a motion to consolidate 5.07, 5.08, and 5.09?

Dr. Hagan: So moved.

Mr. Barrett: Second.

Mrs. Sheffey: Okay. Dr. Hagan and Mr. Barrett. I believe this is a roll call vote to consolidate.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

## **MOTION CARRIED**

### **5.07 Approval of Bid 2012-01 Nine-Passenger School Student Van**

The Administration recommended that Rohrer Bus Sales, Inc. be awarded bid #2012-01 in the amount of \$28,540 for one new 9-passenger school student van.

Rohrer Bus Sales, Inc. was the lowest bid that met specifications.

### **5.08 Approval of Bid 2012-02 New Thirty-Passenger School Bus**

The Administration recommended that Rohrer Bus Sales, Inc. be awarded bid #2012-02 in the amount of \$44,596 for one new 30-passenger school bus.

Rohrer Bus Sales, Inc. was the lowest bid that met specifications.

### **5.09 Approval of Bid 2012-03 One New 77-Passenger School Bus and One Used 77-Passenger School Bus**

The Administration recommended that Brightbill Body Works, Inc. be awarded bid #2012-03 in the amount of \$85,310 for one new 2013, 77-passenger school bus and \$76,950 for one used 2012, 77-passenger school bus (7,000 miles) for a total of \$162,260.

Brightbill Body Works, Inc. was the lowest bid that met specifications.

Mr. Barrett moved the Board approve 5.07, 5.08, and 5.09 and was seconded by Dr. Donahue.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

### **MOTION CARRIED**

Mrs. Sheffey: And I forgot, was there any discussion? No.

### **5.10 Approval of Tax Collection Association Appointment**

The Administration recommended Mr. James Ingalzo be appointed to the Township of Derry Tax Collection Association as an At Large Member until December 31, 2014.

Mr. Gräb moved the Board approve the Tax Collection Association appointment of Mr. Ingalzo and was seconded by Dr. Hagan.

Mrs. Sheffey: I'll just say, I know Mr. Ingalzo. He's an excellent candidate, excellent choice.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

### **MOTION CARRIED**

### **5.11 Approval of Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeal Settlement 2010-VC-13974-TX**

The Administration recommended the approval of a real estate tax assessment settlement of property owned by The Suites at Hershey Condominium Association, Inc. (Case No. 2010-CV-13974-TX, tax parcel 24-004-035). The property is currently assessed at \$9,500,000. The Dauphin County Solicitor and the attorney for the plaintiff have reached a tentative settlement agreement at a

fair market value amounting to \$9,500,000; applying the .706 Common Level Ratio results in a new assessment of \$6,807,000. This \$1,050,800 assessment reduction results in a real estate tax decrease of \$17,496 for 2011-12. Special Counsel Phil Spare recommended the District approve this settlement; therefore, the Administration recommended that District Administration and special counsel are authorized to take all steps necessary to effectuate this settlement and to resolve the pending tax assessment appeal case.

Dr. Hagan moved the Board approve the real estate tax settlement and was seconded by Mrs. Sheffey.

Dr. Cronin: I have a question. Just for my own edification. It was originally assessed at \$9.5 million. They appealed. It's still valued at \$9.5. Is the common level ratio just utilized when it's appealed?

Dr. Faidley: No.

Dr. Cronin: No.

Mr. Rineer: No.

Dr. Cronin: So why is it a decrease then?

Mr. Rineer: Well actually for the next year, it happens to go up. Assessment values are fixed at the county level for all the townships and the school districts in the county, but different counties have a reassessment in different years, and it just so happens that in Derry Township, the last time, and all of Dauphin County, the last time we had county-wide reassessment was back in 2002. So if you build to currently and let's say you build a home that costs \$100,000, you need to translate that value – the current market value – back to the assessments that were made back in 2002. In other words, \$100,000 of construction now would have cost about \$70,000 back in 2002, so the idea is to get the assessment base on an equal footing regardless of when the construction actually took place. The organization state-wide that does that is the – help me out Mr. Gräb – the . . .

Mr. Gräb: State Tax Equalization Board.

Mr. Rineer: The State Tax Equalization Board, which fixes the rate for each county based on current market values and current selling prices of homes. So, anytime you have a current appraisal on a property, as this property owner appealed their value, you can go and get an appraisal done at current market values. So once the parties agree on what the current market value is, whether that is decided at the Board level or at the Board level of the Dauphin County Assessment Board or whether it's determined by the Dauphin County Court or if gets appealed to a level beyond that at the State Court. One of those three bodies will set the current market value and take it back to the 2002 assessment

value and multiply times the common level ratio. It's reset every year and it just so happens that for the 2011-2012 year, the common level ratio is .706. In fact in 2012-2013, the common level ratio is going up to .735. It's heading in a direction that's kind of backwards as it has been. So, that's a long way of explaining something that's fairly complicated, but the whole purpose of the common level ratio is to get back to the 2002 assessment base that all the properties in the county are based on.

Dr. Cronin: So by their appeal, we're losing \$17,000 in the school year, because they made the appeal.

Mr. Rineer: Yes and that commonly happens anytime you get farther and farther away from when the actual county-wide assessments were done.

Dr. Cronin: But that property has since tripled in size.

Mr. Rineer: That may be, but the appraisers have valued that at \$9.5 million dollars and that's a current market value. Once the parties agree that that is the current market value, then you multiply it times the .7 to get down to the assessment base. And it's not uncommon the further you get away from a reassessment that a lot of businesses in particular where they have large value properties will appeal it. In the industry it's called a ratio appeal. It's not uncommon at all.

Dr. Cronin: Then what happens if we wouldn't approve the appeal. What's the process if we didn't agree to this?

Mr. Rineer: Then the District would have to hire appraisers on its own and appeal that assessment. As it is, the appraisal was done by an appraiser and the costs of that were born by the three tax levying entities – the Township, the District, and the County. So, if we decide not to agree with this, then we would be in the position of having to refuse the appeal on our own and certainly the appellant would go to Dauphin County Court and failing that remedy, he would go to Commonwealth Court and we would have to bear those costs by ourselves.

Dr. Cronin: Thank you Steve.

Mr. Rineer: You're welcome.

Mrs. Sheffey: Any other questions?

Mr. Gräb: Just as a point of reference, we passed one of these in the past on a property in Derry Township that had a market value of \$7 million dollars. The common level ratio brought it down to about \$4.9 and it later sold for 10 times that amount, so it's just part of the process.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Cronin – No

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Sheffey - Yes

7 Yes, 1 No, 1 Absent

## MOTION CARRIED

### 5.12 Approval of Textbooks

The Administration recommended the approval of the following textbook for use in the 2012-2013 school year:

<i>Curricular Area:</i>	English
<i>Subject/Course:</i>	Contemporary Literature
<i>Title:</i>	The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian
<i>Publisher:</i>	Little, Brown, and Company
<i>Author:</i>	Sherman Alexie
<i>Copyright:</i>	2007

Dr. Hagan moved the Board approve the textbook and was seconded by Dr. Cronin.

Mrs. Sheffey: I believe this was already vetted by the Curriculum Council.

Male Response: Yes.

Mrs. Sheffey: Okay, thank you.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

## MOTION CARRIED

### 5.13 New Course Proposal - Academic Literacy

The Administration recommended the approval of a new Hershey High School course offering entitled:

- Academic Literacy

The course offering was reviewed and approved at the January 2012 meeting of the Curriculum Council. The cost for this recommendation has been incorporated into the 2012-2013 budget.

Dr. Cronin moved the Board approve the new course proposal and was seconded by Dr. Hagan.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

### MOTION CARRIED

### 5.14 Approval of Overnight Field Trip/Excursion - High School Future Business Leaders of America - April 2012

The Administration recommended the approval of the overnight field trip/excursion as listed:

<i>Group:</i>	High School Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
<i>Number of Participating Students:</i>	24
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9-12
<i>Destination:</i>	Hershey Lodge and Convention Center
<i>Purpose:</i>	FBLA State Leadership Conference
<i>Depart:</i>	April 16, 2012
<i>Return:</i>	April 18, 2012
<i>Trip Leader:</i>	Doug Ruhl, Mike Gustantino, Bonny Ritchey

The District reserves the right to cancel the excursion based on events that could pose a heightened safety or security risk.

Dr. Hagan moved the Board approve the overnight field trip excursion and was seconded by Dr. Cronin.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.15 Requests for the Use of School Facilities**

The Administration recommended the approval of the following Requests for the Use of School Facilities:

<i>Group:</i>	Kicks 4 Kids
<i>Date/Time:</i>	June 16 & 17, 2012 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
<i>Requested Facility:</i>	Cinder Track Field (if available), 2 Fields Behind the Middle School, High School and Middle School Parking Lots
<i>Event:</i>	2012 Hershey Invitational Charity Soccer Tournament
<i>Fee:</i>	None
<i>Group:</i>	Pennsylvania Council on the Arts
<i>Date/Time:</i>	June 20, 2012 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	June 21, 2012 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
<i>Requested Facility:</i>	Middle School Band Room, Music Classroom
<i>Event:</i>	Workshop
<i>Fee:</i>	None

Dr. Hagan moved the Board approve the requests and was seconded by Mr. Gräb.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

## **MOTION CARRIED**

### **5.16 Personnel – Resignation**

The Administration recommended the approval of the following resignations:

<b>Professional:</b>
<b>Heverley, Kristin</b>  Mathematics Teacher High School Reason: Personal Effective: At the end of the 2011-2012 school year and not later than 06/30/2012
<b>Limited Service Contract:</b>
<b>Kissinger, Donald</b>  Stage Manager - Musical High School Reason: Personal Effective: 01/20/2012 (retroactive)

Dr. Hagan moved the Board approve the resignations and was seconded by Mr. Barrett.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.17 Personnel - General**

1.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following appointments:	
	<b>Act 93:</b>	
	<b>Transfer of Act 93 Staff:</b>	
	<b>Shuman, Aaron *</b> From:	Assistant Principal Middle School
	To:	Acting Principal Additional Stipend of \$7,500
	Effective:	01/24/2012 through 06/30/2012
	<b>Professional:</b>	
	<b>Delahunt, Suzanne *</b> (for Michelle Kisner) Music Teacher Elementary School Long Term Substitute Bachelors, Step 1 Salary: \$43,695.25 (pro-rated) Effective: 02/01/2012 through 03/05/2012	
	<b>Furman, Allison</b> (new position - paid through ACCESS dollars) Adaptive Physical Education District-wide Long Term Substitute Bachelors, Step 1 Salary: \$43,695.25 (pro-rated) Effective: 01/27/2012 through the end of the 2011-2012 school year (pending receipt of Act 34, 151, and 114 clearances)	
	<b>Transfer of Professional Staff:</b>	
	<b>Stine, Christopher *</b> From:	Music Teacher Middle School
	To:	Acting Assistant Principal Middle School

Effective:	Additional Stipend of \$5,000 01/24/2012 through 06/30/2012
<b>Classified:</b>	
<p><b>Beare, Toni *</b> (replacing Jill Miller)  General Food Service Worker  Middle School  Level A: 4.0 hours per day  Split Position: 2/3 days per week  Salary: \$11.01 per hour  Effective: 01/24/2012</p>	
<b>Limited Service Contracts:</b>	
<p><b>Clark, Aleigha</b>  Assistant Girls' Lacrosse Coach  High School  Level II, Group D, Step 2  Salary: \$1,702  Effective: 01/24/2012 (pending receipt of Act 151 clearance)</p>	
<p><b>Fried, Richard *</b>  Co-Advisor for Stage Crew Student Production  Middle School  Level II, Group I, Step 1  Salary: \$486  Effective: 01/24/2012</p>	
<p><b>Furman, Allison</b>  Head Girls' Lacrosse Coach  High School  Level I, Group D, Step 1  Salary: \$2,432  Effective: 01/24/2012 (pending receipt of Act 34, 151, and 114 clearances)</p>	
<p><b>Gable, Rachel</b>  Assistant Girls' Lacrosse Coach  High School  Level II, Group D, Step 1  Salary: \$1,702  Effective: 01/24/2012 (pending receipt of Act 34, 151, and 114 clearances)</p>	
2.	

	The Administration recommended the approval of the following request in accordance with District Policy 335:
	<b>King, Sue *</b> Principal Middle School Paid/Unpaid Family Leave Effective: 02/01/2012 through 07/31/2012
3.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following requests in accordance with District Policy 435 & 439:
	<b>Buerk, Erin *</b> Grade 5 Teacher Elementary School Paid/Unpaid Childbearing/Rearing Leave Effective: On or about 03/24/2012 through 05/05/2012
	<b>Kisner, Michelle *</b> Music Teacher Elementary School Extension of Unpaid Childrearing Leave Effective: 02/01/2012 through 03/05/2012
	<b>Willis, Casey *</b> Grade 5 Teacher Elementary School Paid/Unpaid Childbearing/Rearing Leave Effective: On or about 04/18/2012 through 05/30/2012

Mr. Barrett moved the Board approve the personnel recommendations and was seconded by Mr. Morelli.

Dr. Cronin: I just have a comment. Under Limited Service contracts, the last one under bullet point one, the name should actually read Rachel Gable, not Alison.

Mrs. Sheffey: Okay, so we'll approve it as amended.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Hancock – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Sheehan – Yes

Sheffey - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

## **MOTION CARRIED**

## **DELEGATES REPORTS**

### **6.01 Dauphin County Technical School Report**

Mr. Gräb: The Technical School did meet on Wednesday, January 11. We had a presentation from the Assistant Principal regarding the senior graduation project of several students. We had a presentation by the Assistant Director, Dr. Arnold in relation to a course she offered to the Tech School teachers in regards to NOCTI preparation. NOCTI preparation and NOCTI tests are probably more important to vocational school students than PSSAs. The NOCTI tests are National Occupation Competency Testing Institute tests and depending upon those determine whether or not a graduating student in a particular career field may be hired as a plumber, carpenter, electrician, mason, so forth, so on.

Also, we approved the recommendation to enter into a demand response program with Hess Corporation from June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2015.

We approve the removal of the precision metals program from conditional status due to increased student enrollment. We approved the placement of masonry program on the first year of conditional status due to low student enrollment. The Tech School has a policy that states if the population in a particular career falls below 20, it is placed upon conditional status.

We approved requests to solicit bids for a diesel engine training unit for the diesel program via federal Perkins Grant funds.

That's my report Madame President.

Mrs. Sheffey: Thank you.

### **6.02 Harrisburg Area Community College Report**

Dr. Cronin: I did not attend the last meeting, Dr. Faidley, were you in attendance?

Dr. Faidley: Yes, I was.

Dr. Cronin: Do you have any information to report besides the budget allocations?

Dr. Faidley: The meeting was basically a review of the Harrisburg Area Community College budget. They spoke specifically to the number of budgetary reductions that they've made over the past year in terms of program cuts, shaving the budget, getting the budget back in line with being balanced, and they also shared the cost per participating districts and what those would be for the next year.

Mrs. Sheffey: Is there any discussion? Dr. Faidley, was there any discussion at your meeting about Governor Corbett's proposal to reduce funding?

Dr. Faidley: There was not.

Mrs. Sheffey: Okay, thank you.

## **6.02 Capital Area Intermediate Unit Report**

Mrs. Sheffey: I am that representative. We have new Board member orientation last Friday. They presented their proposed preliminary budget. The good news is they are planning to hold it level for all the school districts. I have my first meeting on Thursday, and I'll have more details about their budget proposal.

## **6.03 Derry Township Tax Collection Association Report**

Mr. Gräb: Maryellen and I both eagerly anticipate attending the first meeting on the Derry Township Tax Collection Association this coming Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m.

Mrs. Sheffey: As opposed to . . .

Mr. Gräb: As opposed to showing up last Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m., but hey, you'll have this, you know, senility comes in stages for we older people. Either I or Maryellen will report at the next Board meeting.

Mrs. Sheffey: Thank you.

## **SPECIAL REPORTS**

### **7.01 School Community Information Report**

Mr. Tredinnick: I'd like to note that tomorrow evening there will be a open house and a artist reception that's being hosted at the Penn State Medical Clinical Simulation Laboratory. Why that is of note for us is that the Simulation Center is currently home to works produced by Hershey High School students in our AP Studio Arts class. This project is a collaboration between the Medical Center and the High School. Typically works that would be hung in the Simulation Center would only be available for the viewing of those staff who were training there, so this is an opportunity for the public to have a chance to see the wonderfully talented artists that we have here at the high school and also the dual role of this is to also get a chance to see some of the work that goes on in the Clinical Simulation Laboratory. I certainly encourage the Board members who should have received a separate invitation to this event to attend as well as any of the community members who might be interested in either or both of those opportunities.

Also would like to note that the Board is currently in the process of soliciting citizen advisors for its committees. The information about those committees and the application is available on the District website.

Mrs. Sheehan: I have a question about that, Ellen. How will those citizen advisors be determined?

Mrs. Sheffey: Dr. Donahue?

Dr. Donahue: We have a Human Resource Committee. We'll look at the applications and then we'll make recommendations to the rest of the Board.

Mrs. Sheehan: Thank you.

Mrs. Sheffey: Will you get input from the Committee chairs?

Dr. Donahue: Yes. We'll get input from the Committee chairs.

Mrs. Sheffey: Thank you.

Mr. Tredinnick: Madame President, I would also be remiss if I did not call the Board's attention to our Students of the Month, one of whom happens to be one of our Board representatives, so I don't know whether Mr. Haverstick has anything he would like to add to the report at this point.

Mr. Haverstick: Well, I just wanted to thank everybody that's been involved with all the opportunities that I've gained from just being a student at Hershey High

School, and it was an honor to attend the Rotary luncheon and accept the award this month.

Mrs. Sheffey and Dr. Hagan: Congratulations.

## **7.02 Board Members' Report**

Dr. Hagan: I have just a bit of nice news when I went to the mail and opened up – that Hershey High School name was out nationally. We get Swimming World Magazine and I opened it up and there was a big picture of the Hershey High School Swim Team in there. It's a national magazine, because they were voted the Number 1 swim team in the country. So kudos to Coach Fastrich, I guess, and his assistant coaches and all and to the Athletic Director and Hershey High for supporting that. It's really an amazing thing to be the best swim team in the country, so thanks to everybody and congratulations to all those kids and coaches.

Mrs. Sheffey: Marybeth, can you get that information to Mr. Tredinnick, because that would be nice to have that added to our website.

Dr. Hagan: Yes. I'll get a magazine for the school or whatever. I will. Absolutely.

Mrs. Sheffey: Any other reports?

Mr. Morelli: Just a couple quick comments. First of all the General Service Committee will have its first meeting in February of the year – February 6. At the end of this week, Thursday, as a matter of fact . . .

Mrs. Sheffey: I think it's the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Morelli: Oh, I'm sorry.

Mrs. Sheffey: Sorry, Chris.

Mr. Morelli: It is you're right. At the end of this week, January 26, actually, we will close construction bids on the Early Childhood Center, the tennis courts, and the cinder track projects. Those bids will be open on the same day, the 26<sup>th</sup>. Monday, February 6, we'll review the bids and determine the lowest bidder, and at the February 13 meeting of the General Services, the Committee will look at the lowest bid and talk about the project scope of the individual projects and recommend to the full Board that evening what needs to occur to meet the construction deadlines. At the full Board meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>, the Board will approve the project scope for the Early Childhood Center and then the combined

scope for the tennis courts and the cinder track project. I'm still looking for some citizen advisors, too.

I also had a meeting of the Parks and Rec Committee last – a couple of weeks ago. They have a couple of interesting things going on right now. One is they're embarking on advertising in their parks, just like we're embarking on advertising in our schools, so there may be some opportunities to actually work together with them. They also have a project to sell the skate park, which has been underway for quite some time and they're not exactly sure what to do with that space yet, but they have a lot of folks giving them some ideas of course. They are also doing a lot of work looking at some restoration projects, which will probably get underway this spring with the flood damage, especially on the trail and Bull Frog Valley Pond which they will actually be dredging to make it deeper and using the material from the pond to actually help fill in and repair the trail that's been damaged. They have some other issues with, I guess, the fields down in – or the lacrosse fields – down in Palmdale, which will be quite a challenge this spring for them. The next meeting – they meet monthly – the next meeting of that committee will be February 8.

Just a final note talking about District teams. I have had the pleasure of attending a couple of the high school girls' basketball team games. Those guys are out there week in – or gals – just playing their hearts out. They're having a tough season. They're a young team and I look for them to really do well the rest of the season and next year, but, you know, they're playing right now at the end of the their season as tough and as hard as they probably played at the beginning of the season, and I couldn't be more proud of their efforts. That's everything, thanks.

Mrs. Sheffey: Thanks Mr. Morelli. Any other reports?

### **7.03 Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Faidley: Thank you Madame President. I was excited to hear the Student Representatives discuss this evening the students' general excitement about the homework survey that was distributed or is being distributed for input.

As Derry Township School District continues working to create an extraordinary learning environment for students, one subject in particular tends to stand out in focus groups and that discussion is homework.

This dialogue has been further spurred by screenings of the documentary film "Race to Nowhere." We first hosted a community showing of the film last school year. On August 25, 2011, the entire Derry Township School District faculty and staff as well as representative parents, students, School Board members and

community representatives participated in another screening and subsequent small group discussion.

The internal dialogue about the role, nature and frequency of homework has been very interesting and the entire subject merits more exploration. As collaboration between home and school is vital to help launch students successfully into the 21st Century, we want to hear more about homework from parents' perspective. Beginning on January 16 and running through the end of the month, parents are being encouraged to go to the District web site to share their thoughts in a brief survey. A paper copy of this survey is also available at the District Office.

Similar survey efforts are also underway with students and with the instructional staff. The information collected from all three groups will help guide the dialogue about homework as we look at best practices for the future.

I am also pleased to announce that the first ever a District-wide "Homework Free Weekend" is going to occur. This pilot event will begin with the early dismissal of students for the President's Day weekend on February 16. No homework will be assigned for the long weekend and families are encouraged to use that time to engage in family-building activities.

That concludes my report.

Mrs. Sheffey: Thank you. So what do our student advisors think of that?

[Response not audible]

#### **7.04 Board President's Report**

Mrs. Sheffey: I just wanted to report that I attended Board Presidents training last week done by the PSBA. There were about 30 Board Presidents and Vice Presidents from our area in attendance and some Superintendents. The first half of the meeting we talked about our legal requirements as Board President, running meetings, and that was all very interesting and I learned a few new things. But, the best part was in the afternoon where we talked about the challenges we individually as Boards were facing. We're all in the same boat. We're all looking at significant budget reductions and we're all challenged with how are we going to communicate with our constituents; how to have a two-way discussion about where our School Districts are going. We talked a lot about advocacy to get our committee contacting our legislatures and letting them know that education is a top priority for our community.

One of the things that came up and Mr. Barrett, I know you already have a very aggressive agenda for Communications Committee, but one of the things that

came up was having Town Hall meeting, either on an annual or a biannual basis to get feedback from your community about what their expectations are and then give them feedback on how they can help us move our agenda forward. So, if you could put that somewhere on your agenda, not your one for this week, but somewhere down the line. Thank you.

## **RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS (Non-Agenda Items)**

### **8.01 Recognition of Citizens (Agenda and Non-Agenda Items)**

None.

### **9.01 Adjournment**

Mrs. Sheffey: The next School Board meeting will be held Monday, February 13, 2012 in the High School LGI room starting at 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Cronin moved to adjourn, with a second by Dr. Hagan and, approved by unanimous voice vote by all members. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Stephen E. Rineer  
Secretary to the Board  
Approved at the February 13, 2012 meeting

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Mrs. Ellen Sheffey  
President of the Board

LDM