DATE: September 8, 2014

COMMITTEE: Budget/Finance

LOCATION: District Office

TIME: 7:00PM – 7:20PM

CHAIRPERSON: Timothy W. Stayer

ASSIGNED MEMBERS: Kay Kurtz and Tim Stauffer

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Kay Kurtz, Tim Stauffer and Timothy Stayer

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Kristee Reichard, Business Manager

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

I. Exonerations
   After review and discussion the Committee endorsed the Administrative recommendation to approve the following real estate tax exonerations:

   Clay Township 2014-2015 $1,025.71
   Ephrata Township 2014-2015 $ 462.80

   TOTAL $1,488.51

II. The Meadows Psychiatric Center Agreement
    After review and discussion the Committee endorsed the Administrative recommendation to approve an agreement with The Meadows Psychiatric Center, Centre Hall, PA, a behavioral health treatment facility. The cost is $30.00 per hour for educational services provided for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

III. Student Assistance Program Agreement
     After review and discussion the Committee endorsed the Administrative recommendation to approve an agreement with PA Counseling Services, Lebanon, PA for Student Assistance Program (SAP) for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. SAP services are an unfunded mandate by PDE. The total cost for the services are $30,530.00.

IV. Jostens Yearbook Agreement
    After review and discussion the Committee endorsed the Administrative recommendation to approve a three year agreement with Jostens, State College, PA for Ephrata Middle School yearbooks for the term 2015 through 2017.
BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

I. General Fund Budget 2015-2016
The Committee was informed that the PDE Act 1 base index for the school district would be approximately 2.0% and the adjusted Act 1 index would be approximately 2.5%, maximum without exceptions for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

II. Real Estate Millage Rates
The Committee discussed the real estate millage rates for the Lancaster/Lebanon school districts.

III. Tax Relief Request
The District received a letter from a tax payer requesting the Board to consider granting tax relief for his properties located at 880 East Main Street, Ephrata and 882 East Main Street, Ephrata. After discussion the Committee agreed to follow the Lancaster County Assessment Office procedure, the building must be completely down by June 30, if the building is not completely down by June 30 the tax payer is responsible for the entire year of taxes.

IV. NSBA Conference
The Committee was informed the NSBA annual conference will be held in Nashville Tennessee beginning March 21 – 23, 2015. The board will determine whether any board member will be attending. Registration begins October 2014.