



FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Board Room  
April 22, 2009

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I. The April 22, 2009 Board Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board was held in the Board Room of the Elementary School, 100 Dartmouth Avenue, Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The Meeting was called to order by Mr. Banks at 6:05 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Notice was given that the Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board conducted in the Board Room will be tape recorded and entry constitutes consent to the taping of any individual who comments.

III. Roll Call: Present: Ridley Banks, Greg Blue, Sandra Chobany, James Ford, Edward Jones, Richard Lucas, Wayne Meekins, and Barbara Penna. Absent: Gary Eisenhuth.

Student Board Representatives: Bradley Brosig and Ashley Smith.

Others in attendance were Carole Kakabar, John Kowal, Jennifer Reiter, Justin Zahorchak, Administrators; Ronald Wilson, Administrative Assistant, Attorney James Walsh, Solicitor; Scott Beckner, Lori Byer, Christine Eash, Tiffany Guy, Janet Horvath, Rachelle Hrabosky, Susan Layton, Joyce Leberknight, Stephanie Mino, Jennifer Priest, Debra Utz, Teachers; Belinda Penrod, Aide; Katie McMullen, Mara Schlueschen, Students; Mark Wissinger, Athletic Director; Ebin Chandler-Christie, Other; Patricia Craig, Recording Secretary.

IBD-52-04/09 Presentation from the Community Foundation of the Alleghenies regarding 501c3 Plan for Scholarship and EITC (Earned Income Tax Credits for Business). Mike Kane and Carol Stern

Sandra Chobany arrived at 6:10 p.m.

IV. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

IBD-53-04/09 Michelle Furfari and Tiffany Guy addressed the Board regarding Elementary Competition Cheerleading.

IBD-54-04/09 Scott Miles and Toby Christie addressed the Board regarding wrestling.

IBD-55-04/09 Student Board Representatives' Report.

1	V.	Committees Agenda	1
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3	F-36-04/09	Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to approve the 2003	3
4		Bond Issue Refinancing Resolution. Record vote for the motion: Banks,	4
5		Blue, Chobany, Ford, Jones, Lucas, Meekins, and Penna. Against the	5
6		motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Eisenhuth. The motion	6
7		carried.	7
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9	1.	Board	9
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11	BD-53-04/09	Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Blue, to approve the	11
12		April 22, 2009 Board Meeting Consent Agenda items.	12
13			13
14	BD-54-04/09	Approve the Minutes of the March 18, 2009 Board Meeting.	14
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16	IBD-56-04/09	Staff Appreciation Day - Friday, May 1, 2009.	16
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18	IBD-57-04/09	Received a bereavement thank you from the family of Agnes Holbay.	18
19			19
20	E-06-04/09	Approve the 2009-2010 K-12 School Calendar, as presented.	20
21			21
22	F-31-04/09	Approve the April Treasurer's Report, as presented.	22
23			23
24	F-32-04/09	Approve the General Fund and Hot Lunch Bills, as presented.	24
25			25
26	IF-33-04/09	Review of receipts and disbursements.	26
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28	P-75-04/09	Approve Kaylan Trimboli, Vincent Volkar, and Brooke Warner to the	28
29		substitute teachers' list.	29
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31	P-76-04/09	Approve Vicki Bennett to the substitute support staff list:	31
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33		Record vote for the motion: Banks, Blue, Chobany, Ford, Jones, Lucas,	33
34		Meekins, and Penna. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None.	34
35		Absent: Eisenhuth. The motion carried.	35
36			36
37	BD-55-04/09	Mr. Ford made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to attest a letter to the	37
38		Cambria County Court for reasons of citations for student attendance that	38
39		Carole M. Kakabar is the Superintendent for Ferndale Area School District	39
40		located at 100 Dartmouth Avenue, Johnstown, PA 15905; Justin	40
41		Zahorchak is the Elementary Principal for Ferndale Area Elementary	41
42		School located at 100 Dartmouth Avenue, Johnstown, PA 15905; Jennifer	42
43		L. Reiter is the Assistant High School Principal located at 600 Harlan	43
44		Avenue, Johnstown, PA 15905. The motion passed unanimously by a roll	44
45		call vote.	45

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IBD-58-04/09

Discussion about publishing an editorial in the Tribune Democrat regarding rumors about the state of the District.

BD-56-04/09

Mrs. Chobany made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve the School Board authorize a letter regarding rumors about the state of the District to the staff and students, post on the Ferndale Area School District website, and a press release to the media. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The Board went into an Executive Session at 7:39 p.m. for personnel. The Executive Session ended at 9:30 p.m.

Mr. Blue left the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

2. Personnel

P-81-04/09

Mr. Ford made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to amend the agenda and add a motion to hire Jennifer Reiter as Secondary Principal of the Junior/Senior High School. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

P-82-04/09

Mr. Ford made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to hire Jennifer Reiter as Secondary Principal of the Junior/Senior High School, effective April 23, 2009 at the prorated annual salary of \$70,000 a year. Record vote for the motion: Banks, Chobany, Ford, Jones, Lucas, Meekins, and Penna. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Eisenhuth. The motion carried.

Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve P-77-04/09, P-78-04/09, P-79-04/09. and P-80-04/09.

P-77-04/09

Approve a revision to the stipend of Ronald Wilson, when acting in the capacity of Secondary Administrative Assistant at the Junior/Senior High School, to \$50.00 per day worked, retroactive to April 1, 2009.

P-78-04/09

Approve Frank McCleester as alternate Secondary Administrative Assistant at the Junior/Senior High School, at a stipend of \$50.00 per day worked, retroactive to April 6, 2009.

P-79-04/09

Approve Ferndale Area High School application for two workers to participate in the Americorp Program for the 2009-2010 school year. They will work full-time for 12 months out of the year. The cost to the District is \$9,100 per year/per worker for 1700 hours of work. This averages out to \$5.35 per hour for a full-time worker.

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P-80-04/09

Approve Ferndale Area Elementary School application for two workers to participate in the Americorp Program for the 2009-2010 school year. They will work full-time for 12 months out of the year. The cost to the District is \$9,100 per year/per worker for 1700 hours of work. This averages out to \$5.35 per hour for a full-time worker.

Record vote for the motion: Banks, Chobany, Ford, Jones, Lucas, Meekins, and Penna. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Eisenhuth. The motion carried.

IP-04-04/09

The Ferndale Area School District will need to contract with Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 for a school psychologist services for the 2009-2010 school year. We will need a minimum of two days per week.

3.

Student Activities

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve ST-71-04/09 through ST-77-04/09,

ST-71-04/09

Approve the Kindergarten students field trip to Idlewild Park (Little Adventurers - Discovery Day) on Thursday, May 21, 2009. Cost: \$856.00 for admission and transportation. (Elementary Field Trip Account)

ST-72-04/09

Approve the First Grade students field trip to Cresson Lake Theatre/Vale Wood Farms on Friday, May 8, 2009. Cost: \$955.00 for admission and transportation. (Elementary Field Trip Account)

ST-73-04/09

Approve the Second Grade students field trip to the Pittsburgh Zoo on Thursday, May 28, 2009. Cost: \$1,348.00 for admission, transportation, and pavilion rental. (Elementary Field Trip Account)

ST-74-04/09

Approve the Third Grade students field trip to the Somerset Historical Center on Monday, May 18, 2009. Cost: \$610.00 for admission, transportation, and ice cream. (Elementary Field Trip Account)

ST-75-04/09

Approve the Fourth Grade students field trip to Lincoln Caverns on Wednesday, May 20, 2009. Cost: \$1,285.50 for admission and transportation. (Elementary Field Trip Account)

ST-76-04/09

Approve the Fifth Grade students field trip to Quemahoning Dam on Friday, April 24, 2009. Cost: \$340.00 for transportation and a donation. Substitutes: \$160.00. (Elementary Field Trip Account)

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ST-77-04/09

Approve the Sixth Grade field trip to Pittsburgh National Aviary and Carnegie Museum on Thursday, May 21, 2009. Cost: \$2,085.00 for admission and transportation. Substitute: \$80.00. (Elementary Field Trip Account)

Record vote for the motion: Banks, Chobany, Ford, Jones, Lucas, Meekins, and Penna. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Eisenhuth. The motion carried.

IST-08-04/09

Discuss Small Games of Chance and Booster groups.

IST-09-04/09

The Ferndale Area National Honor Society held a Read Across America Day at the Ferndale Area Elementary on Thursday, April 16, 2009. Cost: Transportation \$85.00. (National Honor Society)

Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve the following coaches for the 2009-2010 school year:

ST-78-04/09

Approve Alan Homan as an Assistant Varsity Football Coach, at a salary consistent with the Coaching Contract, based on a 16-week season. (Salary is prorated with Jason Harvey)

ST-79-04/09

Mark Wissinger as the Head Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach. Salary is pending the outcome of the Coaches' Contract.

ST-80-04/09

Donald Robertson as the Assistant Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach. Salary is pending the outcome of the Coaches' Contract.

ST-81-04/09

Loraine Dodson as the Assistant Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach. Salary is pending the outcome of the Coaches' Contract.

ST-82-04/09

Theresa Kessler as the Assistant Varsity Girls' Volleyball Coach. Salary is pending the outcome of the Coaches' Contract.

ST-83-04/09

Lonnie Bush as the Head Junior High Boys' Basketball Coach, pending receipt of CPR/AED certificate. Salary is pending the outcome of the Coaches' Contract.

ST-84-04/09

Eugene Slobodnick as the Head Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach, pending receipt of CPR/AED certificate. Salary is pending the outcome of the Coaches' Contract.

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ST-85-04/09

Post and/or advertise the positions of an Assistant Junior High Boys' Basketball Coach and an Assistant Junior High Girls' Basketball Coach.

Record vote for the motion: Banks, Chobany, Ford, Jones, Lucas, Meekins, and Penna. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Eisenhuth. The motion carried.

IBD-59-04/09

Update of Board goals:

1. Fiscal responsibility from the District's perspective.
2. Stabilize the Administration and climate at the Junior/Senior High School.
3. Bring the District in compliance with mandates.

IBD-60-04/09

Highlights  
 Elementary School - Justin Zahorchak  
 High School - Ronald Wilson

IBD-61-04/09

Recognition of Ferndale Area School District students published in the Young American Poetry Digest.

4. Buildings and Grounds

None.

5. Cafeteria

None.

6. Education

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to approve E-07-04/09 through E-10-04/09.

E-07-04/09

Approve, as read, the Second Reading of Revised Policy No. 815 Technology, Telecommunications and Internet Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), and adopt said policy.

E-08-04/09

Waive the First Reading of Revised Policy No. 216.2 Behavior Support Policy for Special Education.

E-09-04/09

Approve the Second Reading of Revised Policy No. 216.2 Behavior Support Policy for Special Education, and adopt said policy.

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E-10-04/09

Approve the K-12 Information and Technology Curriculum.

Record vote for the motion: Banks, Chobany, Ford, Jones, Lucas, Meekins, and Penna. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Eisenhuth. The motion carried.

IE-23-04/09

Discussion of 2008-2009 Summer School Program.

7.

Finance

F-33-04/09

Mr. Meekins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to approve the following 2009-2010 Blue Cross/Blue Shield/Major Medical rates. (Premiums reflect an 8% increase)

	TRADITIONAL		PPO BLUE	
	<u>2008-09</u>	<u>2009-10</u>	<u>2008-09</u>	<u>2009-10</u>
Employee Only	371.92	401.68	364.33	393.47
Employee and Child	804.61	868.98	816.92	882.28
Employee and Children	862.99	932.03	816.92	882.28
Employee and Spouse	980.29	1,058.72	958.28	1,034.94
Employee and Family	1,038.67	1,121.27	1,014.61	1,095.78
Family Major Medical	287.77	310.79		
Individual Major Medical	106.96	115.52		

Record vote for the motion: Banks, Chobany, Ford, Jones, Lucas, Meekins, and Penna. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Eisenhuth. The motion carried.

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to approve F-34-04/09 and F-35-04/09.

F-34-04/09

Approve authorization of the Administration to submit grant proposals for federal and state government agencies and to all other funding sources for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

F-35-04/09

Approve the Ferndale Area School District's Management Discussion and Analysis Report for the fiscal year 2007-2008.

Record vote for the motion: Banks, Chobany, Ford, Jones, Lucas, Meekins, and Penna. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Eisenhuth. The motion carried.

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IF-34-04/09

Received the 2007-08 Independent Auditor Report from Kotzan CPA & Associates, P.C., Johnstown, PA which states “In our opinion, the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Ferndale Area School District as of June 30, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.”

IF-35-04/09

Bond Refinancing Update - John Kowal.

8.

Workshops/Conferences

Mr. Ford made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to approve the following conferences/workshops:

W-34-04/09

Judith Virgin (4), School Nurse, *Caring for Children With Infectious Diseases* on June 11, 2009 in Johnstown. Cost: Registration: \$174.00. Meals: \$10.00. Travel: \$2.00. Total Cost: \$186.00. (District)

W-35-04/09

Numerous Administrators, Teachers, Nurse, Counselors, Secretaries, *MMS/PIMS Interface* on June 8, 2009 in the Ferndale Area Board Room. Cost: \$450.00. (District)

Record vote for the motion: Banks, Chobany, Ford, Jones, Lucas, Meekins, and Penna. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Eisenhuth. The motion carried.

P-83-04/09

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to amend the agenda and create the positions of Secondary Guidance Counselor, Secondary Special Education Teacher, and a full-time Special Education Secretary. Record vote for the motion: Banks, Chobany, Ford, Jones, Lucas, Meekins, and Penna. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Eisenhuth. The motion carried.

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P-84-04/09

Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ford, to amend the agenda and create the positions of Secondary Guidance Counselor, Secondary Special Education Teacher, and a full-time Special Education Secretary. Record vote for the motion: Banks, Chobany, Ford, Jones, Lucas, Meekins, and Penna. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Eisenhuth. The motion carried.

VI. Adjournment

Mr. Lucas made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 p.m. All were in favor.

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