

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Agenda Study Session  
October 2, 2023 – 7 p.m.  
A.W. Beattie Career Center Student Conference Center

Regular Business Meeting  
October 9, 2023 – 7 p.m.  
Fox Chapel Area High School LGI Room

*This meeting may be recorded and/or broadcast.*

*Attached Pages*

I. CALL TO ORDER

*PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE*

II. ROLL CALL

III. GUESTS

IV. FOX LEADERSHIP COUNCIL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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• **A Lens on Learning** – Each month, we focus on student work in our schools to highlight lessons, growth, and successes of all kinds.

VI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Approve the minutes of the combined agenda study session and regular business meeting dated September 11, 2023.

\* **Motion:** Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, that the minutes of the combined agenda study session and regular business meeting dated September 11, 2023, are approved as written.

Roll Call Vote:

VIII. **FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** – Public comment is limited to residents or taxpayers of this district. The first public comment period is for items that are scheduled for deliberation or official action on the agenda. To register to make a public comment, please contact the Board Secretary during business hours, but no later than 12 p.m., on the day of the meeting by email (boardsecretary@fcasd.edu), telephone (412-967-2413), or at the district office (611 Field Club Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238). Please provide your name, complete address, telephone number, the subject of the comment or topic to be addressed, and any group affiliation. During the meeting, the Board Secretary will call those community members scheduled to comment by telephone. Sign-in sheets will also be provided at each meeting for those attending who wish to offer public comment and did not register in advance.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

- The superintendent is recommending that action be taken on the following items of business:

A. Facilities / Transportation (*Mrs. Lynch*)

1. Additional School Bus Drivers – 2023-2024 School Year

- Ratify hiring the additional ABC Transit, Inc., drivers from the attached list effective for the 2023-2024 school year. All required licensing, clearances, and all other essential employment requirements for school bus operators under the laws of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania have been verified.

\* **Motion:** Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_,  
that Facilities/Transportation item 1 is approved.

**Roll Call Vote:**

B. Finance (*Mr. Hamilton*)

1. Disbursements (Fund 10) – September 2023

- General fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$12,376,918.26 from September 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, are approved as attached.

2. Finance Report – August 2023

- The finance report for August 2023 is acknowledged and filed for audit as attached.

3. Budget Transfers

- The budget transfers for 2023-2024 are approved as attached.

4. PowerSchool Group LLC Agreement – eFinancePlus Software

- Approve the agreement as attached between the Fox Chapel Area School District and PowerSchool Group LLC for eFinancePlus software for the period January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, at a cost of \$81,631.79. **This is a renewal of services.**

5. 403(b) Adoption Agreement

- Approve the 403(b) Adoption Agreement as attached, amending the Fox Chapel School District 403(b) plan administered by U.S. OMNI & TSACG Compliance Services, to permit Roth contributions, effective October 10, 2023. **This amendment complies with federal regulations in accordance with Secure Act 2.0.**

\* **Motion:** Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_,  
that Finance items 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 are approved.

**Roll Call Vote:**

C. Instruction (*Mrs. Cooper*)

1. Fox Chapel Area School District Comprehensive Plan

- Approve the required Fox Chapel Area School District Comprehensive Plan as attached.

**2. Wesley Family Services – Agreement**

- Ratify the agreement as attached between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Wesley Family Services for child/adolescent Partial Hospital Program (PHP) services for the 2023-2024 school year, effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. **This is a renewal of services.**

**3. Stipulated Adjudications**

- Approve the stipulated adjudications as presented.

\* **Motion:** Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, that Instruction items 1, 2, and 3 are approved.

**Roll Call Vote:**

**D. Legislation / Policy (Mr. Frank)**

No action is requested.

**E. Personnel (Ms. Zych)**

**F. Operations / Cooperative Services (Mr. Goode)**

**1. Fox Chapel Area School District Comprehensive Emergency Management (CEM) Plan**

- Approve the district’s Comprehensive Emergency Management (CEM) Plan. This multi-hazard plan replaces the basic emergency plan, and is in compliance with state and federal emergency guidelines under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA). This plan must be approved annually.

**2. Permission to Advertise – Districtwide Landscaping Services**

- Authorize the advertisement of bids for districtwide landscaping services.

**3. Hartwood Elementary School HVAC Project – Engineering Services Agreement**

- Approve the agreement as attached with H.F. Lenz Co. for engineering services related to the Hartwood Elementary School HVAC project at a fee of \$312,000, plus reimbursable expenses not to exceed \$5,000.

\* **Motion:** Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, that Operations/Cooperative Services items 1, 2, and 3 are approved.

**Roll Call Vote:**

**XI. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – Public comment is limited to residents or taxpayers of this district. The second public comment period is for other matters of concern within the authority of the School Board. To register to make a public comment, please contact the Board Secretary during business hours, but no later than 12 p.m., on the day of the meeting by email (boardsecretary@fcasd.edu), telephone (412-967-2413), or at the district office (611 Field Club Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238). Please provide your name, complete address, telephone number, the subject of the comment or topic to be addressed, and any group affiliation. During the meeting, the Board Secretary will call those community members scheduled to comment by telephone. Sign-in sheets will also be provided at each meeting for those attending who wish to offer public comment and did not register in advance.**

**XII. FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE**

**XIII. BOARD COMMENTS**

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

\* **Motion:** Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_,  
that the meeting is adjourned. Time: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Voice Vote:**

**NOTE:** Attachments cited within the agenda are available for the public on the district website. Anyone without access to the district website who wishes to review the attachments may do so by contacting the Board Secretary during regular business hours.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

### A. Enrollment and Fire Drills

### B. Information

#### •High School Recertified as National Banner Unified Champion School

Fox Chapel Area High School has been recertified as a National Banner Unified Champion School by the international headquarters of Special Olympics. Fox Chapel Area first received this designation in 2019.

The honor is bestowed upon a small number of schools that demonstrate a commitment to inclusion by meeting 10 standards of excellence, developed by a national panel of leaders from Special Olympics and the education community, that center around inclusion, acceptance, and respect.

“We are so proud of the values that are embraced every day by the Fox Chapel Area school community: inclusion, respect, understanding, and empowerment,” says Matthew Aaron, president and CEO of Special Olympics Pennsylvania. “Through the uplifting culture promoted by the students and staff at Fox Chapel Area, everyone is valued. Everyone contributes meaningfully through their unique talents. And everyone is included.”

“We appreciate our partnership with the Special Olympics and are humbled by the recognition,” says Dr. Mary Catherine Reljac, Fox Chapel Area School District superintendent. “We appreciate the efforts of our students, staff, administrators, and school community to provide wonderful, inclusive opportunities for all of our students.”

Fox Chapel Area is one of 146 high schools in the nation to be named a National Banner Unified Champion School for 2023-2024 and was one of only two schools in Pennsylvania to be recertified this year.

Of note, Fox Chapel Area is one of only 24 schools in Pennsylvania to ever receive the National Unified Champion Banner School designation and was the first school in Allegheny County to do so. Fox Chapel Area also was the first school in Allegheny County to have a Unified Track team, which was established during the 2018-2019 school year. The high school also has had a Unified Bocce team since the 2017-2018 school year. These teams include students with and without disabilities, and these athletes work side by side in both training and competition.

Fox Chapel Area High School will receive its Unified Champion School national banner later this school year.

#### •Student Named Among Top 300 in National Science Competition

Dorseyville Middle School seventh-grader **Rishabh Krishnamurthy** was named one of the Top 300 Junior Innovators in the inaugural Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge (Thermo Fisher JIC). Thermo Fisher JIC is the nation’s premier science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) competition for middle school students. The Thermo Fisher JIC, a program of Society for Science, seeks to inspire young scientists, engineers, and innovators to solve the grand challenges of the 21st century.

The Top 300 Junior Innovators (including 15 from Pennsylvania) were selected from nearly 2,000 students from 49 states, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and Puerto Rico who applied to compete in the Thermo Fisher JIC. Students who are named in the top 10% of their local science fair are eligible to enter the contest. Rishabh was chosen based on his project “Modeling the Detection of Pathogens in Sewage Sheds,” for which he was awarded a first place in the Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair in March 2023.

“Congratulations to these exceptional middle school students,” said Maya Ajmera, president and CEO of Society for Science and executive publisher of Science News. “Middle school is a pivotal time in the lives of young people – when many make decisions about engaging in STEM fields. I call on each of

these young people to continue down this path, where they have an opportunity to make an impact on our world’s most pressing scientific and engineering challenges.”

“We are awed and inspired by this inaugural class of Top 300 Junior Innovators, whose research and innovations reflect a rich diversity of academic and personal experiences,” said Dr. Karen Nelson, chief scientific officer of Thermo Fisher Scientific. “As a global life sciences leader with a mission to enable our customers to make the world healthier, cleaner, and safer; we especially admire these students’ shared passion for using science, technology, engineering, and math to solve problems in their communities and make the world a better place.”

Each of the Top 300 Junior Innovators received a \$125 award from Department of Defense (DoD) STEM, as well as a special prize package.

Thermo Fisher was named the title sponsor of the Society’s middle school competition in August 2022. It was previously sponsored by the Broadcom Foundation.

**C. Fox Chapel Area School Board Upcoming Meetings**

October 3, 2023

|        |                              |                        |                        |
|--------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Governance Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
|--------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|

October 9, 2023

|        |                          |             |          |
|--------|--------------------------|-------------|----------|
| 7 p.m. | Regular Business Meeting | High School | LGI Room |
|--------|--------------------------|-------------|----------|

October 11, 2023

|        |                            |                        |                        |
|--------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Academic Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
|--------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|

October 26, 2023

|        |   |                        |                        |
|--------|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Projects and Planning Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
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November 6, 2023

|        |                                |             |          |
|--------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| 6 p.m. | Committee of the Whole Meeting | High School | LGI Room |
|--------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------|

November 6, 2023

|        |                      |             |          |
|--------|----------------------|-------------|----------|
| 7 p.m. | Agenda Study Session | High School | LGI Room |
|--------|----------------------|-------------|----------|

November 13, 2023

|        |                          |                 |     |
|--------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| 7 p.m. | Regular Business Meeting | Kerr Elementary | Gym |
|--------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----|

November 14, 2023

|        |                              |                        |                        |
|--------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Governance Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
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November 15, 2023

|        |                            |                        |                        |
|--------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Academic Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
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November 21, 2023

|        |   |                        |                        |
|--------|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Projects and Planning Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
|--------|---|------------------------|------------------------|

*Agenda Study Session – 10/2/2023*

December 4, 2023

|        |   |             |          |
|--------|---|-------------|----------|
| 7 p.m. | Reorganization Meeting &<br>Combined Agenda Study Session<br>and Regular Business Meeting | High School | LGI Room |
|--------|---|-------------|----------|

January 9, 2024

|        |                              |                        |                        |
|--------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Governance Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
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January 16, 2024

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|--------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Academic Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
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January 23, 2024

|        |  |                        |                        |
|--------|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Projects and Planning<br>Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
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February 6, 2024

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|--------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Governance Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
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February 7, 2024

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|--------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Academic Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
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February 20, 2024

|        |  |                        |                        |
|--------|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Projects and Planning<br>Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
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March 5, 2024

|        |  |                        |                        |
|--------|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Projects and Planning<br>Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
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April 2, 2024

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|--------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Governance Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
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April 3, 2024

|        |                            |                        |                        |
|--------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 p.m. | Academic Committee Meeting | Administrative Offices | Staff Development Room |
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