

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

NOVEMBER 13, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The regular business meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fox Chapel Area School District was called to order by president, Marybeth Dadd, at 7:04 p.m. on November 13, 2023, in the gym at Kerr Elementary School. Ms. Dadd announced that before tonight's public meeting, the Board met in executive session to discuss information that if disclosed in public would be reasonably likely to impair the effectiveness of school safety or create a reasonable likelihood of jeopardizing the security of a building, resource, infrastructure, facility, or information storage system. During the executive session, the Board also discussed with counsel information and strategy related to litigation or issues about which identifiable complaints are expected to be filed. The Board is also scheduled to meet in executive session after tonight's public meeting to discuss an employment or personnel matter.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL-CALL

The Board members present at roll call were Ms. Andrews (via telephone), Mrs. Cooper, Ms. Dadd, Ms. Findley, Mr. Frank, Mr. Goode, Mr. Hamilton, Mrs. Lynch (via telephone), and Ms. Zych. Also present were Dr. Reljac, Dr. McCommons, Mr. Giuffre, and Mrs. Anuszek. Other members of the public were present.

GUESTS

There were no guests.

FOX LEADERSHIP COUNCIL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Alexandra Sroufe and Avanti Muvvala, community outreach chairs, gave a report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

Tonight's presentation focused on the unified arts curriculum at the elementary level, as well as an artistic extracurricular opportunity in which some of our students participate.

We were joined by Kerr Elementary School fourth-grade teachers Mrs. Tiffany Hess and Mrs. Erica Yeager, and some of their students, who showcased the Creative Dramatics group. The Creative Dramatics group is composed of fourth- and fifth-grade students who meet after school weekly from September to December. Kerr Elementary partners with the Pittsburgh Public Theater for the Creative Dramatics sessions. Each session engages students in creative exploration and storytelling.

We were also joined this evening by O'Hara Elementary School art teachers Mrs. Jennifer Reynolds and Mrs. Deena Stipetich, who showcased the unified arts at O'Hara Elementary. Unified arts in our district comprises computer science, library, art, physical education, and music. The O'Hara unified arts team produced a video to highlight the good work taking place in these disciplines.

Mrs. Reynolds and Mrs. Stipetich introduced the fifth-grade students who led the creation of the district's holiday card. The students talked about their experience in having the opportunity to engage in the card-making process.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was no report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Dadd asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular business meeting dated October 9, 2023. On motion by Mr. Hamilton and seconded by Mr. Frank, the minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

The superintendent recommended that action be taken on the following items of business:

FACILITIES/TRANSPORTATION

A. Facilities/Transportation

There was no business.

FINANCE

B. Finance

On motion by Mr. Hamilton and seconded by Mr. Frank, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Finance items:

1. Disbursements (Fund 10) – October 2023

General fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$7,498,905.43 from October 1, 2023, through October 31, 2023, are approved.

2. Finance Report – September 2023

The finance report for September 2023 is acknowledged and filed for audit.

3. Budget Transfers

The budget transfers for 2023-2024 are approved.

4. Student Activity Financial Reports

The first quarter 2023-2024 middle school and high school student activity financial reports are acknowledged and filed for audit.

5. Award of Bid – Industrial Embroidery Machine

The administration is authorized to award the following bid for an industrial embroidery machine at the high school:

Hirsch Solutions Inc.
11515 Vanstory Drive, Suite 145
Huntersville, NC 28078 \$24,745

6. Award of Bids – Athletic

The administration is authorized to award the following bids for the 2023-2024 school year:

Athletic Supplies Bids – Spring

BSN Sports, LLC P.O. Box 7726 Dallas, TX 75209-0726	\$815.22
Century Sports, Inc. 115 E. McMurray Road McMurray, PA 15317	\$5,550.98
MF Athletic 1600 Division Road West Warwick, RI 02893	\$1,192.00
Natale Sporting Goods 209 Fifth Avenue McKeesport, PA 15132	\$5,426.68
Pyramid School Products 6510 North 54th Street Tampa, FL 33610-1908	\$4,167.90

7. Close Bank Account

Approve closing the Fox Chapel Area School District bank account with Wesbanco and move all funds into other investment accounts already held by the district.

8. Services Support – Proposal

Accept the amended proposal of services for the district's safety and security system. There is no cost associated with the proposal.

INSTRUCTION

C. Instruction

On motion by Mrs. Cooper and seconded by Ms. Zych, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Instruction items:

1. January 2024 Graduates

The following students are eligible for midyear graduation, subject to final approval by the high school lead principal:

Eva Arraujo	Julia Baker	Alyssa Berardi
Kiersten Berardi	Emma Bolton	Cassady Chapple
Malachi Chapple	Devin Charles	Jayne Dye
Alexandra Gerdes	Alex Guiste	Gabrielle Hodas
Haley Kulikowski	Barron Loeffler	Amanda Marron
Eva Mazreku	Connor Mazzoni	Hannah Mohoska
Safiyyah Muhina	Sofia Rhee	Jamile Washington
Feona Williams	John Zottola	

2. Junior Achievement of Western Pennsylvania – JA BizTown Contracts

Approve the contracts between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Junior Achievement of Western Pennsylvania for fourth-grade students to participate in JA BizTown for the 2023-2024 school year at an estimated cost of \$8,025, and authorize the administration to execute the contracts on behalf of the district. **These are renewals of contracts.**

3. Add-Education, Inc. – Staffing Agreement

Approve the staffing agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Add-Education, Inc. to provide healthcare professionals to the district effective November 13, 2023. **This is a new service.**

4. River Academy of Excellence – Student Education Agreement

Approve the student education agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and River Academy of Excellence to provide services to an unnamed student for the 2023-2024 school year. **This is a new service.**

5. Stipulated Adjudication

Approve the stipulated adjudication as presented.

LEGISLATION/POLICY

D. Legislation/Policy

Mr. Frank made a motion to approve Legislation/Policy items 1 and 2. Ms. Findley seconded the motion. There was a discussion.

Ms. Zych requested that the agenda be amended so that Policy No. 227 would be considered separately and moved that Policy No. 227 be referred back to the governance committee. Mr. Goode seconded the motion. There was a discussion. It was unanimously resolved to refer Policy No. 227 back to the governance committee.

It was unanimously resolved to approve Legislation/Policy items 1 and 2, excluding Policy No. 227.

1. Policies – Revised – First Reading

Approve the first reading of the following revised policies:

- No. 006 – Meetings
- No. 137 – Home Education Programs
- No. 137.1 – Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students
- No. 216.1 – Supplemental Discipline Records
- No. 223 – Use of Motor Vehicles
- No. 227 – Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
- No. 251 – Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability
- No. 718 – Service Animals in Schools
- No. 800 – Records Management
- No. 805 – Emergency Preparedness and Response
- No. 830 – Security of Computerized Personal Information/Breach Notification

2. Policies – New – First Reading

Approve the first reading of the following new policies as attached:

- No. 137.2 – Participation in Cocurricular Activities and Academic Courses by Home Education Students
- No. 137.3 – Participation in Career and Technical Education Programs by Home Education Students
- No. 830.1 – Data Governance – Storage/Security

PERSONNEL

E. Personnel

Candidates for employment under this section are approved subject to verification of the results of physical and drug screening examinations, required clearances, and all other essential employment requirements under Policy and Administrative Regulations 304-AR and 304-AR-4.

On motion by Ms. Zych and seconded by Ms. Findley, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Personnel items:

1. Resignations

a. Administration

- (1) The resignation of Matthew J. Harris, Ed.D., executive director of secondary education and instruction for the Fox Chapel Area School District, due to retirement, is accepted effective September 30, 2024.

b. Educational Support

- (1) The resignation of Susan L. George, instructional assistant at O'Hara Elementary School, due to retirement, is accepted effective January 3, 2024.

c. Food Services

- (1) The resignation of Amanda L. Ramirez, food services employee at Dorseyville Middle School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective December 11, 2023.

d. Supplemental Contracts – Athletic

- (1) The resignation of Matthew R. Mauclair, swimming, HS 2nd asst., due to personal reasons, is accepted effective November 17, 2023.
- (2) The resignation of John T. Stout, softball, MS asst., due to personal reasons, is accepted effective November 17, 2023.

2. Appointments

a. Professional

- (1) Amelia C. Dickson is approved as a special education teacher at Kerr Elementary School. This position is available due to the retirement of Terri Kedzierski.

Certification: Instructional I
Education: B.S., Slippery Rock University, 2016
Experience: 2 years, Pine-Richland School District
1 year, Allegheny Intermediate Unit
Effective: To be determined
Salary: \$60,298 based on Step 4, B+0 (Salary will be prorated.)
Fringe Benefits: As per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

b. Food Services

- (1) Christine D. Weber is approved as a permanent, part-time (four hours per day) food services employee at Dorseyville Middle School. Hourly wage is set based on the wage scale for food services employees, General Food Worker, with no fringe benefits, effective November 14, 2023. This position is available due to the transfer of Pat Wigda.

c. Supplemental Contracts – Athletic

- (1) The following athletic supplemental contracts are approved, effective November 17, 2023:

Sean R. Baldis	Intramurals Basketball – Boys, Fairview	\$1,516.00
Keith DeNinno	Swimming, HS 2nd Asst.	\$3,649.00
Jason Jablon	Basketball – Girls, MS Asst. (70%)	\$3,417.40
Matthew R. Mauclair	Swimming, HS Head	\$6,078.00
John T. Stout	Softball, MS Head	\$3,618.00
Brendon Urso	Basketball – Girls, MS Asst. (30%)	\$1,464.60

- (2) The following athletic supplemental contract is approved, effective March 4, 2024:

Caitlin Paul	Volleyball, Boys, MS Asst. (Partial Salary)	\$1,289.00
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d. Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic

- (1) The following non-athletic supplemental contracts are ratified/approved for the 2023-2024 school term:

Nathan W. Hart	Spring Musical Choreographer	\$3,799.00
Zachary J. Piper	Orchestra Director – Elementary (Lv. Repl.)	\$1,636.00
Elizabeth A. Scholz	Band/Orchestra Trip – Healthcare (50%)	\$1,146.50
Kirstein M. Sharrow	Choral Director – Elementary – Kerr (50%)	\$ 691.00
Miranda M. Zarlino	Choral Director – Elementary – Kerr (50%)	\$ 691.00

- (2) The following non-athletic supplemental contract is ratified effective November 1, 2023:

Kerrie A. Barnett	Mentor Teacher – O’Hara Elementary School	\$1,122.36
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3. Leaves

a. Professional

- (1) Alyson E. De La Torre, elementary teacher at Fairview Elementary School, is approved for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective January 3, 2024, with return scheduled for April 1, 2024.
- (2) Micaela L. DiFrancesca, elementary teacher at O’Hara Elementary School, is approved for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective January 29, 2024, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2024-2025 school year.
- (3) Shannon R. Frick, elementary teacher at O’Hara Elementary School, is approved for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective February 5, 2024, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2024-2025 school year.

4. Leave Replacements

a. Professional

- (1) Skyler L. Bisceglia is ratified as a leave replacement special education teacher at O'Hara Elementary School. This position is available due to the childrearing leave of Kristy Ferragonio.

Certification: Instructional I
Education: B.S., Slippery Rock University, 2023
Experience: Student Teaching, North Allegheny School District
Effective: November 1, 2023, through March 22, 2024
Salary: \$58,198 (prorated) based on Step 1, B+0
Fringe Benefits: As per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

- (2) Nicolas A. Luciano is ratified as a leave replacement elementary teacher at O'Hara Elementary School. This position is available due to increased enrollment.

Certification: Instructional I
Education: B.A., Wheeling Jesuit University, 2020
M.A., Wheeling Jesuit University, 2021
Experience: 1 year, Ohio County School District, WV
Effective: August 21, 2023, through the day after the last day of school for students for the 2023-2024 school year
Salary: \$67,023 based on Step 2, M+0
Fringe Benefits: As per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

5. Termination

- a. The termination between employee "X" and the Fox Chapel Area School District, effective August 25, 2023, is approved.

OPERATIONS/COOPERATIVE SERVICES

F. Operations/Cooperative Services

On motion by Mr. Goode and seconded by Ms. Zych, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Operations/Cooperative Services items:

1. Verizon Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (COPA) – Agreement

Approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Verizon COPA effective November 14, 2023, through December 31, 2027, which will allow the Fox Chapel Area School District to purchase Verizon services at a reduced rate through COSTARS. **This is a renewal of the district's agreement through the Commonwealth COSTARS program account.**

2. Dagostino Electronic Services, Inc. – Contract

Approve the contract between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Dagostino Electronic Services, Inc. for migration of district phone service to a new platform effective November 14, 2023, through project completion, at a cost of \$7,720.09 in addition to a recurring monthly charge of \$937.01 and a one-time service charge of \$602.85. **This is a replacement for an existing service.**

3. Allegheny Intermediate Unit Mutual Assistance Group Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Approve the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Mutual Assistance Group MOU between the Fox Chapel Area School District and participating schools, and authorize the superintendent to execute the MOU on behalf of the district. **This is a new MOU under which districts may request or provide resources and personnel in the event of an emergency or other crisis.**

SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was one comment.

1. Paola Motschman, district resident, commented on cyberbullying.

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

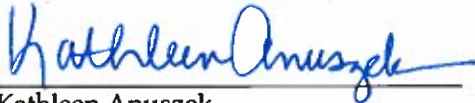
There was no report.

BOARD COMMENTS

There were nine comments. Ms. Dadd, Mr. Frank, Ms. Findley, Mrs. Lynch, Ms. Andrews, Mr. Hamilton, Mrs. Cooper, Ms. Zych, and Mr. Goode commented.

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m.



Kathleen Anuszek
Board Secretary