

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON APRIL 12, 2023

The regular meeting of the Freeport Area School District Board of School Directors scheduled for 7:30 pm in the Audion of the Freeport Area High School, 625 South Pike Road, Sarver, Pennsylvania, was called to order by Mr. Adam Toncini, Board President, at 7:54 p.m.

Roll call:

Ms. Bollinger	Present
Ms. Davies	Present
Mr. Haven	Present
Mr. Huth	Absent
Dr. Prazenica	Present
Mr. Risch	Present
Mr. Selinger	Present
Mr. Toncini	Present
Ms. Zembrzuski	Absent

Student School Board Members:

Ava Soilis	Absent
Elise Whitlinger	Present
Crystal Zembrzuski	Absent
Madalin Burnheimer	Present
Kodi Esau	Absent
Anne Lindsay	Present

Administrators present were Mr. Magness, Superintendent; Mr. Robb, Program Director; and Mr. Walker, Director of Finance and Operations. Also participating was District solicitor Mr. Daniel Conlon.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Toncini requested a motion to add *Other Business* items 7.r. and 7.s. to the agenda:

7.r. Action on accepting a proposal from Howard Technology Solutions for the purchase of 1600 Acer Chromebooks and accompanying software licenses, for an amount not to exceed \$296,000.

7.s. Action on accepting a proposal from Bump Armor Tech Protection for the purchase of 1600 Chromebook Protectors, for an amount not to exceed \$28,624.

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Mr. Selinger, to add *Other Business* items 7.r. and 7.s. to the agenda, as read. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Toncini welcomed members of the public. He solicited public comment on the items on the posted agenda and the two read-in items.

Sylvia Maxwell of Buffalo Township commented on *Other Business* agenda item 7.r. for the purchase of Chromebooks.

Reports

1. It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Dr. Prazenica, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 8, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.
2. The Board Secretary reported that the Board met as follows since the last report to the Board at the Regular Meeting on March 8, 2023: The Board met in Executive Session on April 5, 2023, to discuss Personnel, Contracts and Negotiations, and Legal Matters. The Board held a Committee Meeting on April 5, 2023. The Board met in Executive Session following the Committee Meeting on April 5, 2023, to discuss Confidential Student Matters. The Board met in Executive Session on April 12, 2023, to discuss Personnel, Contracts and Negotiations, and Confidential Student Matters.
3. Mr. Walker provided background information for read in items 7.r. and 7.s. under *Other Business* and an overview of the attached business manager's report.
4. Mr. Magness reported on the status of bids for the Athletics department's pole vault/pits.
5. Mr. Toncini noted the item on the agenda for the retirement resignation of High School teacher Mark Wyant. Mr. Toncini commended Mr. Wyant on his service to the District. Mr. Toncini noted that as a former student he was personally grateful to Mr. Wyant.
6. Dr. Prazenica reported that the Armstrong Indiana (ARIN) Intermediate Unit's Annual School Directors Convention would be held on April 18, 2023, hosted by Marion Center School District.
7. Mr. Selinger reported on the Bowling and Swimming seasons just ended.
8. Mr. Haven reported on Pennsylvania House Bill 301, revising the School Code to remove derogatory and offensive terms from the law.
9. Ms. Bollinger reported that the Freeport Area School District Foundation is offering scholarships for Freeport Area High School Senior students.
10. The Student school board members in attendance provided their report on student activities.

Personnel

It was moved by Mr. Risch, and seconded by Dr. Prazenica,

- a. To accept the resignation of Mark S. Wyant, Teacher, effective June 30, 2023.

Motion carried on a vote of five (5) to two (2), with Ms. Davies and Mr. Toncini voting *No*.

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Mr. Selinger,

- b. To accept the resignation of Kimberly L. Gardner, Educational Assistant, effective April 6, 2023.
- c. To approve the request of Employee No. 3599 for Unpaid Leave.
- d. To approve the employment of Logan A. Jendrejewski as a full time Custodian, at an hourly wage rate of \$15.50, effective April 13, 2023, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.
- e. To approve the employment of Luke C. Mayberry as an intern with the District's information technology group, at an hourly wage rate of \$7.25, effective May 26, 2023, and ending August 18, 2023.
- f. To accept the attached resignation of Renee M. Bogan, Teacher, effective July 1, 2023.
- g. To approve the employment of Renee M. Bogan, as 6-12 Assistant Principal, at an annual salary of \$95,500, effective July 1, 2023.

Motion carried unanimously.

Curriculum and Technology

It was moved by Ms. Bollinger, and seconded by Ms. Davies,

- a. To approve the submission of the District's Special Education Plan Report (07/01/2023 - 06/30/2026), as provided on the attachment, to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
- b. To approve the attached College in High School Dual Credit Agreement with Seton Hill University for a dual credit program to be offered to Freeport Area High School students during the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Athletics and Activities

It was moved by Mr. Risch, and seconded by Mr. Selinger,

- a. To approve a High School and Middle School student field trip to the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) State Competition in State College, Pennsylvania, from May 14, 2023, to May 16, 2023, at a cost to the District of \$383.23 plus the cost of one substitute teacher for two days.
- b. To approve the attendance of Donald Dell, Special Services Coordinator, and Monica Ferraro and Monica Walter, Teachers, at the National Autism Conference in State College, Pennsylvania, from July 31 to August 3, 2023, at a cost to the District of \$2,168.70.
- c. To approve the requests listed on the attachment for use of District facilities by District athletics booster groups at no charge, from July 2023 through April 2024, subject to the approval of the Superintendent or his designee based on prevailing conditions.

Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Ms. Davies,

- a. To approve the attached Attorney-Client Fee Contract with Frantz Law Group, ALPC, for legal services related to the pursuit of claims for damages associated with social media litigation, at no direct cost to the District and for a contingent fee of 25% of any recovery.
- b. To accept the attached proposal from CM Regent Solutions for employee Life, Accidental Death and Dismemberment, Voluntary Life, and Voluntary Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance coverage to be provided at the rates listed, from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025.
- c. To approve the attached Full Time Special Education Placement Agreement with Hope Academy for special education and therapeutic services to be provided to a resident student in accordance with the student's IEP, from March 23, 2023, through June 1, 2023, at a cost to the District of \$4,500 per month.
- d. To approve the attached Agreement for Educational Services with The Bradley School for education services to be provided to a resident student in accordance with the student's IEP, from March 27, 2023, through June 30, 2023, at a cost to the District of \$182.05 per day.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. Selinger, and seconded by Ms. Bollinger,

- e. TO TABLE THE FOLLOWING ITEM: Action on approving the attached Agreement with The Watson Institute for extended school year educational services to be provided to a resident student in accordance with the student's IEP, from July ____, 2023, through July ____, 2023, at a cost of \$_____.
- f. TO TABLE THE FOLLOWING ITEM: Action on approving the attached Agreement with MHY Family Services for extended school year educational services to be provided to resident students in accordance with the students' IEPs, from June ____, 2023, through July ____, 2023, at the daily rates of \$_____ for Special Education Students and \$_____ for Life Skills Students.
- g. TO TABLE THE FOLLOWING ITEM: Action on approving an agreement with the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children, for educational services to be provided to two District resident students in an extended school year program, in accordance with the students' IEPs, from July ____, 2023, through July ____, 2023, at a cost to the District of \$_____.
- q. TO TABLE THE FOLLOWING ITEM: To approve a Stipulated Adjudication with regard to Student J. *[this item out of agenda order]*

Motion TO TABLE *Other Business* items 7.e., 7.f., 7.g, and 7.q. carried unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Mr. Risch,

- h. To approve an agreement with the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, for educational services to be provided to a District resident student in an extended school year program, in accordance with the student's IEP, from July 10, 2023, through July 27, 2023, at a cost to the District of \$1,800.
- i. To approve the attached Exhibit B to the District's Educational Services Agreement with The School at McGuire Memorial dated August 22, 2022, for extended school year educational services to be provided to resident students in accordance with the students' IEPs, from July 10, 2023, through August 4, 2023, at a daily rate of \$260 and an additional \$150 per day for one-to-one aide services.
- j. To approve a Stipulated Adjudication with regard to Student A.
- k. To approve a Stipulated Adjudication with regard to Student B.
- l. To approve a Stipulated Adjudication with regard to Student D.
- m. To approve a Stipulated Adjudication with regard to Student E.

- n. To approve a Stipulated Adjudication with regard to Student F.
- o. To approve a Stipulated Adjudication with regard to Student G.
- p. To approve a Stipulated Adjudication with regard to Student I.
- q. *[item 7.q. was tabled earlier in the meeting]*
- r. To accept a proposal from Howard Technology Solutions for the purchase of 1600 Acer Chromebooks and accompanying software licenses, for an amount not to exceed \$296,000.
- s. To accept a proposal from Bump Armor Tech Protection for the purchase of 1600 Chromebook Protectors, for an amount not to exceed \$28,624.

Motion carried unanimously.

Finance

Mr. Walker provided a summary overview regarding the proposed preliminary 2023-2024 general operating budget to be discussed at the May 3, 2023 Special Meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Mr. Selinger,

- a. To approve the attached March financial reports.
- b. To approve the bills for payment listed on the attachments.
- c. To approve the attached list of budgetary transfers.

Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meetings

Mr. Toncini announced that the Board would hold a Special Meeting / Committee Meeting on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at 7:30 pm in the High School Audion and a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 7:30 pm in the High School Audion.

Comments from the Public

Sylvia Maxwell of Buffalo Township commented on the District's plans to purchase a dump truck. Rosemary Ross of Buffalo Township commented on the May 3, 2023, 2023-2024 budget presentation. Dan Lucovich of Buffalo Township commented on the 2023-2024 budget. Jim Swartz of Freeport Borough commented on hiring practices for Athletics positions, Athletics event scheduling, and an upcoming bus trip to Harrisburg.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Mr. Selinger, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Toncini declared the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

/s/ Adam M. Toncini
Board President

/s/ Mary Dobransky
Board Secretary