

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JUNE 10, 2021

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. Daniel P. Lucovich, President, at 7:43 p.m. As noticed, public participation in the meeting was both in-person and via live stream audio/submission of comments by email.

Roll call:

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|---------------|---------|
| Ms. Bollinger | Present |
| Ms. Davies | Present |
| Mr. Haven | Present |
| Mr. Hill | Present |
| Mr. Huth | Present |
| Mr. Lucovich | Present |
| Dr. Prazenica | Present |
| Mr. Selinger | Present |
| Mr. Toncini | Present |

Administrators participating were Mr. Magness, Superintendent; Mr. Robb, Program Director; and Mr. Manzer, Business Manager. Also participating was District solicitor Mr. Matthew Hoffman.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Lucovich welcomed members of the public listening by live stream audio.

Mr. Lucovich announced read in item (k) under Finance and solicited public comment on it and the items on the posted agenda.

Public Comment

The Board Secretary reported that there were no comments submitted by the public on any agenda items. James Swartz of Freeport Borough provided his comments on the 2021-2022 budget item under Finance.

Reports

1. It was moved by Mr. Hill, and seconded by Mr. Haven, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on May 6, 2021, and the Regular Meeting held on May 13, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Ms. Dobransky reported that the Board met as follows since her last report to the Board at the Regular Meeting on May 13, 2021: The Board's Negotiations Committee held a negotiations session with representatives from Freeport

Education Association and Freeport Education Support Personnel Association on May 18, 2021. The Board's Negotiations Committee held an information session on May 25, 2021. The Board's Negotiations Committee held an information session on June 1, 2021. The Board met twice in Executive Session on June 3, 2021 (before and after the public meetings that day), to discuss Safety and Security, Personnel, Contracts and Negotiations, and Confidential Student Matters. The Board held a Special Meeting for general business purposes followed by its Committee Meeting on June 3, 2021. The Board's Negotiations Committee held a negotiations session with representatives from Freeport Education Association on June 9, 2021. The Board met in Executive Session on June 10, 2021, to discuss Safety and Security, Personnel, and Contracts and Negotiations Matters.

3. Mr. Magness presented his Administration Report with an update on the District's Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan and the attached resolution under School Code Section 520.1 authorizing Administration to take actions related to the COVID-19 pandemic during the 2021-2022 school year. Mr. Magness congratulated the High School on the commencement ceremony held earlier in the week. He reported to the Board that the school year just ended was a success and commended all staff members in all departments and the families and most especially the students for their efforts during a challenging time.
4. Mr. Lucovich thanked Mr. Magness and the High School staff for organizing the commencement ceremony held earlier in the week and the teachers and staff for making the 2020-2021 school year another successful year for the District.
5. Mr. Lucovich reported that Lenape Technical School would hold its graduation the following day and the Lenape Joint Operating Committee would meet the following week.
6. Ms. Bollinger presented her Legislative report as provided on the attachment.
7. Ms. Bollinger presented her report on the Freeport Area School District Foundation as provided on the attachment.

Personnel

It was moved by Mr. Toncini, and seconded by Mr. Huth,

- a. To accept the attached resignation of Lauren K. Sherrieb, part-time Cafeteria Worker, effective June 8, 2021.
- b. To accept the attached retirement resignation of Ann V. Durst, Educational Assistant, effective June 30, 2021.
- c. To accept the attached resignation of James W. Corll, full time Custodian, effective June 30, 2021.

- d. To approve the employment of the individuals listed below as a full time Teacher or School Counselor for the District, effective August 23, 2021, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements:

| Name | Annual compensation set by contract for Degree/Step |
|---------------------|--|
| Samantha Ayres | Masters / Step 1 |
| Mallorie D. Wynkoop | Bachelors / Step 3 |
| Monica M. Walter | Bachelors / Step 1 |
| Taylor R. Wolfe | Bachelors / Step 1 |
| Amy G. Manofsky | Masters / Step 1 |

- e. To approve the employment of Sara L. Walker as a Confidential Secretary, at an hourly wage rate of \$16.50, effective June 14, 2021, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.
- f. To approve the employment of Christopher B. Schraven as a full time Custodian, at an hourly wage rate of \$13.45, effective June 11, 2021, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.
- g. To approve the employment of Daniel J. Heider and Christian R. Waronsky as interns with the District's information technology group, at an hourly wage rate of \$7.25, effective June 11, 2021 through August 25, 2021.
- h. To approve the employment of Mark I. Kacy and Cory J. Brunck as maintenance workers during the summer of 2021, at an hourly wage rate of \$10.00, with wages funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry's Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.
- i. To approve the employment of the paid and volunteer individuals listed on the attachment for the District's Athletics Programs during the 2021-2022 school year, with salaries in accordance with contracted terms of remuneration approved by the Board and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Motion carried unanimously.

Curriculum and Technology

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

- a. To approve the attached student handbooks/codes of conduct for the 2021-2022 school year.
- b. To approve the attached assessment schedule for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Athletics and Activities

It was moved by Mr. Hill, and seconded by Mr. Huth,

- a. To approve the adoption of the attached revised Return to Play Plan and authorize submission and posting by Administration as mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
- b. To approve the chorus and band festivals for the 2021-2022 school year as provided on the attachment.

Motion carried unanimously.

Policy

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

- a. To tentatively approve the adoption of the attached new School Board Policy No. 800.1 (Electronic Signatures/ Records).

Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

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

- a. To approve the authorization of Administration to apply for and accept an Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III Fund grant to support the attached list of priority projects.
- b. To approve the attached resolution pursuant to Section 520.1 of the School Code authorizing Administration to take certain actions in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic for the 2021-2022 school year.
- c. To approve the adoption of the attached revised Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan and authorization for submission and posting by

Administration, as mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

- d. To approve the election of Diana Heuser as the Lenape Joint Operating Committee Board Secretary for a four (4) year term expiring on June 30, 2025.
- e. To approve the election of Brady Shafer as the Lenape Joint Operating Committee and Armstrong County Area Vocational-Technical School Board Treasurer for a one (1) year term expiring on June 30, 2022.
- f. To appoint Daniel P. Lucovich as the Board's Voting Delegate to the Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) 2021 Delegate Assembly to be held on October 23, 2021.
- g. To approve the appointment of the firm of Tucker Arensberg, P.C. as school board solicitor for the 2021-2022 school year as per the firm's proposal dated May 21, 2021.
- h. **TO TABLE** a motion to approve the attached Agreement between Owner and Architect dated April 27, 2021, with HHS DR, Inc., for architect services related to the Freeport Area High School HVAC Project, with fees and rates of compensation as set forth in Article 11 of the Agreement.
- i. To approve the appointment of Children's Community Pediatrics as elementary and secondary school physicians for the 2021-2022 school year at an annual rate of \$4,500.
- j. To approve the appointment of Merit Dental as school district dentists for the 2021-2022 school year at an annual rate of \$100.
- k. To approve the attached agreement with the Armstrong Indiana (ARIN) Intermediate Unit 28, to provide Licensed Professional Counselor services, from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, at a cost of \$83,885.83.
- l. To approve the attached Metrix Learning Services Agreement with New York Wired for Education, for use of its Learning Management System for user management and delivery of online training content from June 1, 2021, through May 31, 2024, at a cost of \$19,125, to be paid from workforce grant funds.
- m. To approve the attached 2021 Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) Agreement Form, for participation in an online survey of District students, to be conducted from September 7, 2021, through November 19, 2021, at no cost to the District.
- n. To approve the attached agreement with The Watson Institute for educational services to be provided to a resident student in accordance with

the student's IEP, at an annual cost of \$50,498 for the 2020-2021 school year, prorated for days attended beginning May 19, 2021.

- o. To approve the attached agreement with the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh for the enrollment of a resident student in a summer camp program to be held from June 21, 2021 through July 15, 2021, in accordance with the student's IEP, at a cost of \$1,800 to be paid from Special Education COVID-19 Impact Mitigation Grant funds.
- p. To approve an agreement with Achieva Support for the enrollment of a resident student in a summer camp program to be held from June 21, 2021 through July 9, 2021, in accordance with the student's IEP, at a cost not to exceed \$980 to be paid from Special Education COVID-19 Impact Mitigation Grant funds.
- q. To approve the attached agreement with The Children's Institute of Pittsburgh, for educational services to be provided to two District resident students in an extended school year program, from June 1, 2021, through August 6, 2021, in accordance with the students' IEPs, at a cost to the District of \$8,000.
- r. To approve 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, from July 12, 2021, through July 30, 2021, in accordance with the students' IEPs, at a cost to the District of \$10,800.
- s. To approve an agreement with Pittsburgh Behavioral Services, Inc., for educational services to be provided to a District resident student in an extended school year program in accordance with the student's IEP, for up to fifteen (15) hours per week (not to exceed a total of 145 hours) from June 9, 2021, through September 1, 2021, at an hourly rate of \$60.
- t. To approve the attached agreement with WestARM Therapy Services, Inc., for occupational and physical therapy services to be provided to students during the 2021 2022 through 2025-2026 school years, for the hourly fees listed in Section III of the agreement.
- u. To accept the donation of labor and materials from Kelly Automotive and 84 Lumber for the construction of a storage shed for the use of the Cross Country team, with any remaining costs to be covered by the Cross Country Team Boosters.
- v. To approve the attached Services Agreement with Tri-County Workforce Investment Board, Inc., for activities associated with a Career Awareness grant in the amount of \$2,000 for the SkillUp Freeport initiative.

- w. To accept the donation of 16 boxes of books to Buffalo Elementary School and South Buffalo Elementary School, from the Butler County United Way.
- x. To accept two Innovative Classroom Grant from the PPG Foundation each in the amount of \$1,000 for the High School/Middle School Science Fair Club.

Motion carried unanimously.

Finance

Mr. Manzer referred the members to his attached Business Manager's report.

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

- a. To approve the attached May financial reports.
- b. To approve the bills for payment listed on the attachment.
- c. To approve a list of budgetary transfers.
- d. To approve the authorization of the Business Manager to make final year-end 2020-2021 budgetary transfers, which will be reported to the Board for approval in September 2021, as recommended by the state auditor.
- e. To approve the student activity accounts listed on the attachment for the 2021-2022 school year.
- f. To award property and casualty insurance coverage for the 2021-2022 school year to Utica National Insurance Group in the amount of \$87,874, through Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.
- g. To award workmen's compensation insurance coverage for the 2021-2022 school year to Encova Mutual Insurance Group (formerly BrickStreet) in the amount of \$60,498, per the attached proposal.
- k. **READ IN ITEM:** To award environmental liability insurance coverage for the 2021-2022 school year to Ironshore in the amount of \$13,056.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

- h. To adopt the proposed Final Budget of the School District for the 2021-2022 fiscal year on form PDE 2028 as presented to the School Board as a Final Budget for the School District General Fund in the amount of \$35,191,634.

Roll call vote requested. Roll call vote:

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| Ms. Bollinger | <u>Yes</u> |
| Ms. Davies | <u>No</u> |
| Mr. Haven | <u>No</u> |
| Mr. Hill | <u>No</u> |
| Mr. Huth | <u>Yes</u> |
| Dr. Prazenica | <u>No</u> |
| Mr. Selinger | <u>Yes</u> |
| Mr. Toncini | <u>Yes</u> |
| Mr. Lucovich | <u>Yes</u> |

Motion *carried* on a vote of five (5) to four (4).

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

- i. To approve the attached Annual Tax Levy Resolution providing for the levy of taxes for school purposes for the school year beginning July 1, 2021, subject to the provisions of the Local Tax Collection Law and in accordance with the tax rates approved on Form PDE-2028.
- j. To approve the authorization of a homestead and farmstead real estate tax assessment exclusion for the school year beginning July 1, 2021, under the provisions of the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006), in accordance with the attached resolution and the tax rates approved on Form PDE-2028.

Motion carried. Item (i) carried on a vote of (5) to four (4), with Ms. Davies, Mr. Haven, Mr. Hill, and Dr. Prazenica voting *No* on item (i).

Next Meetings

Mr. Lucovich announced that the Board would hold a Committee Meeting on Thursday, July 1, 2021, at 7:30 pm and its next Regular Meeting on Thursday, July 8, 2021, at 7:30 pm.

Comments from the Public

James Swartz of Freeport Borough commented on the District's need to cut costs. Tom Walker of Buffalo Township commented on the District's 2021-2022 budget and state and federal COVID-19 relief funding.

Comments from Board Members

Ms. Bollinger and Mr. Huth commented on the factors that have to be considered in the process of finalizing a budget, including the need to cut programs for students when cutting costs and how fund balance reductions will affect the District's ability to borrow money in the future. Mr. Toncini commented on how the federal Elementary and

Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds were allocated to expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board Secretary reported that there were no comments on non-agenda items submitted by the public by email.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Hill, and seconded by Mr. Toncini, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. The President declared the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

/s/ Daniel P. Lucovich

President

/s/ Mary Dobransky

Secretary