

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 31, 2020

The special meeting of the Freeport Area School District Board of School Directors, for general business purposes, scheduled for 7:30 pm in the Auditorium of the Freeport Area High School, with public participation via live-stream audio and submission of comments by email, was called to order by Mr. John K. Haven, President, at 7:45 p.m.

Roll call:

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. Daniel Conlon.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Haven welcomed members of the public participating via live stream audio.

It was moved by Dr. Prazenica, and seconded by Mr. Selinger, to suspend any applicable Freeport Area School District policies in order to authorize the conduct of this special meeting of the Board of School Directors via telephone conference in consideration of the public health concerns and governmental directives arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Notice of the conduct of this meeting via telephone conference previously has been posted at the District Administration office and to the District website with information to allow public access to and public comment during the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Haven directed the Board Secretary to read public comments submitted by the public regarding items on the agenda:

Dan Merli of Freeport Borough, Hannah Thomas of South Buffalo Township (writing on behalf of the Freeport Girls' Soccer Seniors Class of 2021), Eric Westendorf of South Buffalo Township, Chuck and Pegg Maloney of Buffalo Township, Bonnie and Jeremy Waldenville of Buffalo Township, Marcie Marasia of Buffalo Township, Nellie Black of South Buffalo Township, Erica Rusek of Buffalo Township, Erica Jageman of Buffalo Township, Lisa Jordan Werkis of South Buffalo Township, Bob Buterbaugh of Buffalo Township, and Paula Mason of Buffalo Township submitted comments supporting a

return to play for student-athletes. Additional comments from Paula Mason of Buffalo Township and comments from Jessica Eyer of Buffalo Township noted that the Board's live-streamed meetings were difficult to hear. Rebecca Pitkavish of Freeport Borough submitted questions about senior parent participation at the next day's band dress rehearsal night. Jennifer Anderson of Buffalo Township inquired about cheerleading and band participation at athletic events at home and away.

Personnel

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

- a. To authorize the Superintendent to reduce the number of regularly scheduled work hours of cafeteria workers for reasons of economy and the unavailability or reduction of work due to the remote instructional model implemented by the Freeport Area School District in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, with such reductions to be implemented consistent with the Freeport Education Support Personnel Association (FESPA) collective bargaining agreement. Inasmuch as the manner of instruction may transition between remote, in-person and hybrid (part-time remote and part-time in-person instruction) models during the 2020-2021 school year, the Superintendent is further authorized to reinstate the number of regularly scheduled work hours for such personnel and, if work again becomes unavailable, to again reduce regularly scheduled work hours as needed.

Motion carried on a vote of eight (8) to one (1), with Mr. Toncini voting *No*.

Athletics and Activities

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

- a. To adopt the attached revised Return to Play Plan and authorize submission and posting by Administration as mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from Board Members

Ms. Bollinger addressed the public listening to the live-stream audio, saying she heard their voices and concern and she felt their pain and their children's pain. She asked that the people listening understand that the board does not make decisions lightly and she hoped board members and the public would treat each other like adults.

Ms. Davies expressed her support of Ms. Bollinger's statements.

Mr. Haven thanked Administration for its work to bring back students. He noted the remote instruction plan was sound an achievable and that the Board's goal is to bring students back into the buildings as soon as possible but in the safest manner possible.

Comments from Visitors

Superintendent Magness read the public comments submitted by Melissa Daugherty of Freeport Borough. Mr. Magness noted in response to Ms. Daugherty's questions that the District would be conducting ongoing deep cleaning while students attend in-person classes and that seniors would be given the opportunity to take the SAT at the High School in September and potentially on three additional dates during the 2020-2021 school year.

Next Meetings

Mr. Haven announced that the Board would hold a Special Meeting and its next Committee Meeting on Thursday, September 3, 2020, and its next Regular Meeting on Thursday, September 10, 2020.

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 8:42 p.m.

/s/ John K. Haven

President

/s/ Mary Dobransky

Secretary