

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Agenda Study Session
March 4, 2024 – 7 p.m.
Fox Chapel Area High School LGI Room

Regular Business Meeting
March 11, 2024 – 7 p.m.
Fairview Elementary School Gym

This meeting may be recorded and/or broadcast.

Attached Pages

I. CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

III. GUESTS

•Fox Chapel Area High School senior **Kaylee Dunham** and junior **Lincoln Marshal** were named winners in Prime Stage Theatre’s Fourth Annual High School Drama Awards. Kaylee won in the best student program/poster design category and Lincoln won in the best actor category for Fox Chapel Area High School’s fall play, “The Man Who Came to Dinner.”

The Fox Chapel Area High School students performed a scene from the fall play as part of the awards ceremony that was held January 29, 2024, at Prime Stage’s New Hazlett Theater. The awards, sponsored by Prime Stage Theatre, recognize excellence in student-run high school drama and were open to schools from across Southwestern Pennsylvania.

•A team of Dorseyville Middle School students won first place at the Hack the Ram competition. The students are eighth-graders **Steven Hu, Kanisk Prakash,** and **Siddarth Srinivasan,** and seventh-grader **PJ Hart.**

Hack the Ram was a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) 12-hour invention marathon. The purpose of hackathons is to create technology with like-minded peers in a collaborative environment. As part of the contest, students were tasked to come up with a way to support environmental/green initiatives. They were then given 10 hours of “hacking time” to create a website, app, program, robot, or other technology initiative to support the theme. The Dorseyville Middle School students developed a prototype website that provided information on common recycling errors, enabled individuals to search for nearby recycling centers and also for those centers to post their information, and enabled individuals to calculate their carbon footprint. The Dorseyville students each won a GPS drone for their efforts.

The competition was held January 27, 2024, at Pine-Richland High School and was open to students from grades 6-12 from across the greater Pittsburgh area.

IV. FOX LEADERSHIP COUNCIL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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VI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Approve the minutes of the regular business meeting dated February 12, 2024.

* **Motion:** Moved by _____ and seconded by _____, that the minutes of the regular business meeting dated February 12, 2024, 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)

No action is requested.

B. Finance (Mr. Hamilton)

1. Disbursements (Fund 10) – February 2024

- General fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$7,963,084.71 from February 1, 2024, through February 29, 2024, are approved as attached.

2. Disbursements (Fund 31) – February 2024

- Capital reserves fund disbursements (Fund 31) in the amount of \$14,060.68 from February 1, 2024, through February 29, 2024, are approved as attached.

3. Finance Report – January 2024

- The finance report for January 2024 is acknowledged and filed for audit as attached.

4. Budget Transfers

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

5. Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU3) – 2024-2025 Program of Services Budget

- The administration recommends that the Board approve the proposed 2024-2025 Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU3) Program of Services Budget in the amount of \$2,263,093. The Allegheny County school districts' total contribution to the budget is \$1,936,965. The Fox Chapel Area School District's contribution to the Program of Services Budget is estimated to be \$105,647.78 and will be determined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education sometime after July 1, 2024, based on the District Aid Ratio and Weighted Average Daily Membership (WADM).

* **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. Updated Health and Safety Plan

- Approve the updated Fox Chapel Area School District Health and Safety Plan as attached.

2. K-12 Guidance Plan

- Approve the Fox Chapel Area School District K-12 Guidance Plan as attached as required every three years by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

**3. Allegheny Intermediate Unit
Notice of Adoption of Policies, Procedures, and Use of Funds**

- Approve the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Notice of Adoption of Policies, Procedures, and Use of Funds as attached for the program year 2024-2025.

**4. Allegheny Intermediate Unit
IDEA-Part B Use of Funds Agreement**

- Approve the subgrant agreement as attached for Implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) – Part B between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

5. LearnWell – Agreement

- Ratify the agreement as attached between the Fox Chapel Area School District and LearnWell for tutoring services for the 2023-2024 school year at a cost stated in Exhibit A. **This is a renewal of services.**

6. The School at McGuire Memorial – Extended School Year (ESY) Addendum

- Approve the extended school year addendum as attached for Extended School Year (ESY) program rates pursuant to the agreement with The School at McGuire Memorial that was approved August 14, 2023. **This is a renewal of services.**

7. Stipulated Adjudications

- Approve the stipulated adjudications as presented.

- * **Motion:** Moved by _____ and seconded by _____, that Instruction items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 are approved.

Roll Call Vote:

Instruction Information Item:

8. A.W. Beattie Career Center 2024-2025 School Calendar – Information

- The A.W. Beattie Career Center 2024-2025 school calendar is attached.

D. Legislation / Policy (Mr. Frank)

1. Policies – Revised – Second Reading and Adoption

- Approve the second reading and adoption of the following revised policies as attached:

No. 221 – Dress and Grooming
No. 227 – Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
No. 304 – Employment of District Staff
No. 306 – Employment of Summer School Staff
No. 307 – Student Teachers/Interns
No. 308 – Employment Contract/Board Resolution
No. 311 – Reduction of Staff
No. 313 – Evaluation of Employees
No. 314 – Physical Examination/Drug Screening
No. 314.1 – HIV Infection
No. 317 – Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures
No. 317.1 – Educator Misconduct
No. 318 – Attendance and Tardiness
No. 319 – Outside Activities
No. 320 – Freedom of Speech in Nonschool Settings
No. 819 – Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response

2. Policies – Revised – First Reading

- Approve the first reading of the following revised policies as attached:

No. 200 – Enrollment of Students
No. 321 – Political Activities
No. 322 – Gifts
No. 323 – Tobacco and Vaping Products
No. 324 – Personnel Files
No. 325 – Dress and Grooming
No. 326 – Complaint Process
No. 330 – Overtime
No. 331 – Job Related Expenses
No. 332 – Working Periods
No. 333 – Professional Development
No. 334 – Sick Leave
No. 337 – Vacation
No. 338 – Sabbatical Leave
No. 610 – Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation
No. 810 – Transportation

3. Policy – New – First Reading

- Approve the first reading of the following new policy as attached:

No. 254 – Educational Opportunity for Military Children

4. Policy – Deleted

- Approve deleting the following policy as attached:

No. 327.1 – School Building Responsibility (This policy is procedural in nature and aligns more with job responsibilities that would be outlined in the applicable contract, collective bargaining agreement, administrator compensation plan, etc.)

- * **Motion:** Moved by _____ and seconded by _____,
that Legislation/Policy items 1, 2, 3, and 4 are approved.

Roll Call Vote:

E. Personnel (Ms. Zych)

F. Operations / Cooperative Services (Mr. Goode)

1. Care Solace – Renewal of Services

- Approve the renewal of services with Care Solace to provide a web-based navigation system to assist its school district clients and the districts’ students and parents in locating and connecting with mental health treatment providers, effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a total cost of \$14,000, pursuant to the service agreement that was approved January 10, 2022. **This will be funded by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) school safety grant.**

* Motion: Moved by _____ and seconded by _____, that Operations/Cooperative Services item 1 is 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 Seniors Named National Merit Finalists

Six Fox Chapel Area High School seniors have been designated as National Merit Finalists in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program. The Finalists from Fox Chapel Area High School are **Lucas Gravina, Chloe Kim, Shriya Krishnamurthy, Adhitya Thirumala, Abraham White, and Dylan Work.**

These students were named Semifinalists in September 2023 and have met all the requirements to advance to Finalist standing in the competition for National Merit Scholarships. The students are selected as Finalists based on their Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) scores and other factors, including SAT and/or ACT scores, a student essay, a school recommendation, and having an outstanding academic record throughout high school.

Each year college-bound 11th-grade students complete the PSAT/NMSQT. All the students who take this test are automatically enrolled in the National Merit Scholarship Program and approximately 15,000 advance to become Finalists. The Finalists represent less than one percent of the nation's high school seniors and compete for some 7,140 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$28 million that will be offered this spring.

•High School Students Candidates in Presidential Scholars Program

Fox Chapel Area High School seniors **Jacob Anthikad, Adam Ferris, Lucas Gravina, Katherine Haas, and Dylan Work** have been selected as candidates in the 2024 United States Presidential Scholars Program. Approximately 5,000 students from approximately 3.3 million high school seniors graduating this year from across the U.S. have been named candidates in this year's program, and 154 are from Pennsylvania.

Inclusion in the Presidential Scholars Program, begun in 1964, is one of the nation's highest honors bestowed upon graduating high school seniors. Students are first selected for the program based on their superior academic achievements. They are then further evaluated on their academic achievements, leadership and service activities, and the quality and content of a submitted essay.

Approximately 600 students will be selected as Semifinalists in the program, and then students chosen as U.S. Presidential Scholars (up to 161) will be notified this spring.

•High School Students to be Inducted Into National Technical Honor Society

Three Fox Chapel Area High School and A.W. Beattie Career Center students will be inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) this year. Juniors **Shayna Horwitz, Gretchen Shelestak, and Emma Stein** all participate in Beattie's cosmetology program and will be inducted into the NTHS at a ceremony March 12, 2024, at A.W. Beattie Career Center.

To be considered for the honor, students must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale, have a grade of at least 95% in their career training program, and miss no more than five days of school. Candidates also must have a clear disciplinary record and belong to a service organization or participate in an extracurricular activity.

•Student Publication Wins First-Place National Award

Fox Chapel Area High School's literary magazine "Tapestry" was named a first-place winner in the 2023 American Scholastic Press Association's Annual Review and Contest Awards for scholastic yearbooks, magazines, and other publications. The publication was one of 16 from across the nation with an enrollment of 1,001-1,700 students to receive a first-place award.

The 2022-2023 student staff members of “Tapestry” were 2023 graduates **Ishaan Acharya** (editor-in-chief), **Talia Bugel**, **Helia Hamidi**, **Aura Chuck Hernandez**, **Mikhail Ion** (layout designer), and **Sophie Shao**; and 2023-2024 seniors **Caroline Berger**, **Mira Busch**, **Laura Carter**, **Kaylee Dunham**, **Emmett Gillespie**, **Eileen Healy**, **Clara Kelley** (head of submissions), **Emma Kim**, and **Isabella White**. The students’ advisor is Fox Chapel Area High School English teacher **Jessica Green**.

• **DMS Students Score High in PA Math League Contest**

Five Dorseyville Middle School students scored high, attaining marks of 30 or better out of 35, in the annual Pennsylvania Math League (PAML) Contest. The students are eighth-graders **Steven Hu** and **Henry Sun**, seventh-grader **Rishabh Krishnamurthy**, and sixth-graders **Shengfeng Fei** and **Brian Xu**. Additionally, Shengfeng also attained a perfect score in the contest.

The annual PAML Contest is a mathematics competition offered to students in grades 4-12. The students have 30 minutes to answer 35 high-level math questions. The purpose of the competition is to promote problem-solving skills and the enjoyment and study of mathematics.

• **Boys Basketball Players Named to Big 56 All-Section Teams**

Three Fox Chapel Area High School boys basketball players were named to Big 56 all-section teams. Senior **William Siegel** and junior **Asher White** were named to the WPIAL Class 5A Section 2 first team, and senior **Jefferson Moorefield-Brown** was named to the second team.

• **Girls Basketball Players Named to Big 56 All-Section Teams**

Five Fox Chapel Area High School girls basketball players were named to Big 56 all-section teams. Junior **Bella Urso** and sophomore **Lyla Jablon** were named to the WPIAL Class 5A Section 2 second team, and seniors **Isabella Barbour**, **Skylar Byrnes**, and **Sarah Slember** all received honorable mentions to the team.

• **District Wins Eight Awards in State Communications Contest**

The Fox Chapel Area School District won eight awards in the Pennsylvania School Public Relations Association’s (PenSPRA) 2023 Excellence in Education Communications Contest. The district received Awards of Honor in the writing category for the stories “O’Hara Students Crack the Case of Zero the Hero” and “‘Jared Boxes’ Bring Joy to Ill Children,” both of which appeared in the spring 2023 IN Fox Chapel Area Community Magazine; and for the summer 2023 IN Fox Chapel Area Community Magazine in the publications category. The district received Awards of Merit in the writing category for the stories “Students’ Efforts Aid African Villages,” “Unified Hackathon Bolsters Inclusivity,” and “FCAHS & DMS Polar Plunge Team Tops in State,” all of which appeared in the spring 2023 IN Fox Chapel Area Community Magazine. The district received additional Awards of Merit in the publications category for the Fox Chapel Area School District Strategic Vision Summary and the winter 2023 IN Fox Chapel Area Community Magazine.

Nearly 275 entries from educational institutions throughout Pennsylvania were submitted for the contest. The winners will be honored at the Annual PenSPRA Symposium in March as part of an awards luncheon.

Fox Chapel Area School District’s winning entries were coordinated **Jill Leonard**, the district’s community engagement specialist, and by **Bonnie Berzonski**, the district’s coordinator of communications.

PenSPRA is a nationally recognized professional organization. The group strengthens the leadership role of the school communications profession, fosters the continual development of its members, celebrates student and teacher achievement, and promotes school and community partnerships in support of education.

C. Fox Chapel Area School Board Upcoming Meetings

March 11, 2024

7 p.m. Regular Business Meeting Fairview Elementary Gym

March 12, 2024

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

April 2, 2024

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

April 3, 2024

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

April 8, 2024

7 p.m. Combined Agenda Study Session and Regular Business Meeting High School LGI Room

May 6, 2024

7 p.m. Combined Agenda Study Session and Regular Business Meeting Dorseyville MS Auditorium

June 3, 2024

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

June 10, 2024

7 p.m. Regular Business Meeting O'Hara Elementary Auditorium

August 12, 2024

7 p.m. Combined Agenda Study Session and Regular Business Meeting High School LGI Room

September 9, 2024

7 p.m. Combined Agenda Study Session and Regular Business Meeting High School LGI Room

October 7, 2024

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

October 14, 2024

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

November 4, 2024

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

Agenda Study Session – March 4, 2024

November 11, 2024

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| 7 p.m. | Regular Business Meeting | Kerr Elementary | Gym |
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December 3, 2024 (Tuesday)

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