

August 12, 2024

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL — The Board of School Directors of the Fox Chapel Area School District held its regular business meeting at Fox Chapel Area High School August 12, 2024. President Marybeth Dadd called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Also in attendance were Vice President Ronald P. Frank; Assistant Secretary Vanessa K. Lynch (via telephone); Treasurer Eric G. Hamilton; Amy B. Cooper; Katie Findley (via telephone); Adam G. Goode; Jessica Haselkorn, Ph.D.; and Ariel Zych.

GUESTS

Certificates of Merit — The Board presented certificates of merit to the following employees:

- The Fox Chapel Area School District won 11 awards in the 2024 National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) Publications and Digital Media Excellence Awards contest.

The district received top Awards of Excellence for “Weekly Messages from the Superintendent” in the Newsletter category; for “Strategic Vision: A Framework of Collaboration and Community” in the Marketing Material category; for “FCASD 2022-2023 State of the Schools” in the Annual Report category; and for the article “O’Hara Students Crack the Case of Zero the Hero” (which appeared in the spring 2023 “IN Fox Chapel Area” magazine) in the Excellence in Writing category.

Fox Chapel Area won Awards of Merit for the articles “FCAHS & DMS Polar Plunge Teams Tops in State,” “Jared Boxes Bring Joy to Ill Children,” and “Unified Hackathon Bolsters Inclusivity” in the Excellence in Writing category. All three articles appeared in the spring 2023 issue of “IN Fox Chapel Area” magazine. The district also won an Award of Merit for its section of the spring 2023 “IN Fox Chapel Area” magazine.

The district received Honorable Mentions for the summer 2023 and winter 2023 issues of “IN Fox Chapel Area” magazine, and the district’s website.

More than 1,800 entries were judged in this year’s contest and were given awards of Excellence, Merit, or Honorable Mention. The awards recognize outstanding education publications, including annual reports, e-newsletters, magazines, videos, and websites, as well as excellence in writing. The entries were judged by experienced, award-winning professionals, and each was judged on its overall excellence and quality compared to other entries in the category. Winning entries were recognized during the Annual Meeting and Celebration of Achievement at the NSPRA 2024 National Seminar in July, and will be spotlighted in association member e-newsletters in the coming school year.

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

FOX LEADERSHIP COUNCIL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- A Lens on Learning (June 3, 2024)** — Each month, we focus on student work in our schools to highlight lessons, growth, and successes of all kinds. This month, Fairview Elementary School Principal **Susan Kreit**, Fairview third-grade teacher **Marla Brashear**, and three Fairview rising fourth-grade students (**Ryan McLaughlin**, **Art Chhablani**, and **Rory McLaughlin**) highlighted the annual Heritage Day in which Fairview Elementary third-grade students and their families participate. The day includes reports from students who have researched their heritage and a special lunch featuring foods from different countries. This tradition has been in place at Fairview for more than 20 years and showcases the district’s meaningful work with diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging.

Information

- Dorseyville Middle School Named 2024 Schools of Distinction Recipient**

Dorseyville Middle School in the Fox Chapel Area School District has been recognized among 17 schools nationwide as part of the Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE) 2024 Schools of Distinction. AMLE’s Schools of Distinction program recognizes exemplary schools, while supporting them through a process of strategic vision setting to help foster ongoing growth and success.

Dorseyville Middle School, the first and only school in Pennsylvania to ever be named a School of Distinction, completed a rigorous review process that measured implementation of middle grades best practice and continuous improvement plans. After advancing from the initial application, the school community participated in a series of stakeholder interviews that included staff, students, and families.

"It is a privilege to recognize Dorseyville Middle School as an AMLE School of Distinction. They are truly worthy of this prestigious honor," said Stephanie Simpson, CEO of AMLE.

During the review process, several "Essential Attributes" were evaluated to ensure that the school provides an education for young adolescents that is responsive, challenging, empowering, equitable, and engaging. Specifically, the evaluation team mentioned young adolescents being the foundation of all decisions made at Dorseyville Middle School, that high expectations are cultivated for the entire school community, that the school facilitates students taking responsibility for their own learning and making positive contributions to the world around them, that the school provides socially just learning opportunities, and that the school atmosphere is motivating for all learners. Additionally, the school is also evaluated on the characteristics of culture and community; curriculum, instruction, and assessment; and leadership and organization.

Dorseyville Middle School Program Principal Dr. Laura Miller spearheaded the application process, which is designed and meant to be reflective of best middle level practices.

"I am so proud that Dorseyville Middle School is the first school in Pennsylvania to receive this recognition," Dr. Miller said. "The evaluation team found in the Dorseyville Middle School community what we see every day – the great work that our students, staff, and entire school community does to make Dorseyville Middle School a great place for students."

According to Fox Chapel Area School District Superintendent Dr. Mary Catherine Reljac, Dorseyville Middle School offers an exemplary overall program that addresses not just academics, but the whole child.

"Dorseyville Middle School is a joyful place where the entire school community works together to fulfill the district's strategic vision pillars of purpose, passion, care, and community," Dr. Reljac said. "We are very proud of their efforts and that others recognize the work that happens day in and day out in the school community."

AMLE recognizes schools that meet the Schools of Distinction criteria on an annual basis. Dorseyville Middle School will be recognized and present on their exemplary practices live at AMLE24: The 51st Annual Conference for Middle Level Education this November in Nashville.

The AMLE is an international membership organization that helps middle grades educators reach every student, grow professionally, and create great schools.

•FCASD Wins 2024 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence

The Fox Chapel Area School District, in conjunction with three community organizations, was awarded a 2024 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence. The "Second-Graders Restoring Habitat at Salamander Park" was a joint project done in conjunction with students from Fox Chapel Area School District, the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania, the Allegheny County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, and Fox Chapel Borough Parks Commission and Public Works Department.

As part of the project, second-graders from all four of the district's elementary schools (Fairview, Hartwood, Kerr, and O'Hara) restored habitat at Fox Chapel Borough's Salamander Park which brought the district together with nonprofit environmental groups. More than 300 students enhanced a local habitat by planting over 300 trees to improve the riparian habitat of Sycamore Run (a stream that borders Salamander Park). The partnership engaged students, teachers, nonprofit organizations, and community volunteers to plant more than 1,500 native trees.

"This year's Environmental Excellence honorees showcase the innovative ways we can protect our environment and shape a more sustainable future here in Pennsylvania," said DEP Interim Acting Secretary Jessica Shirley. "Together we will spur the next generation of environmental stewards and these projects represent our ability to work together to preserve Pennsylvania's natural resources."

Applications were evaluated for their degree of environmental protection, innovation, partnership, economic impact, consideration of climate change, sustainability, and environmental justice, as well as outcomes achieved.

The awards, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), honored 22 projects statewide with the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence.

•High School Students and Graduates Named AP Scholars

A total of 181 current Fox Chapel Area High School students and 2024 graduates were named Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars by the College Board for demonstrating college-level achievement on the AP examinations taken in May 2024. The College Board recognizes three levels of achievement based on the number of courses and exams.

—The following graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction award by earning an average score of 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams: 2024 graduates **Jacob Anthikad, Annalese Bartolacci, Dylan Berman, Micah Cagley, Jack Cannon, Jeremiah Cessna, Joshua Correnti, Amelia Costello, Grady Cullen, Nicholas Cusano, Eliza Davis, Logan Dressman, David Feder, Gabriel Felman, Adam Ferris, Madeline Fontenot, Emmett Gillespie, Lucas Gravina, Katherine Haas, Julia Hernaez, Anna Iasella, Isaac Jacobs, Darren Jayaratnam, Madelyn Jones, Whitney Jones, Alexander Kaufmann, Clara Kelley, Chloe Kim, Emma Kim, Henry Koloc, Kathleen Krebs, Shriya Krishnamurthy, Massimo Lagazzi, Lucy Larsen, Harry Littwin, Rebecca Lokshanov, Jacob Milgrub, Rose Mullan, Benjamin Myers, Thomas Patterson, Lakshanya Rajaganapathi, Oscar Ruff, Michael Shin, Nora Siri, Madeleine Stone, Adhitya Thirumala, Kieu My Tong, Emily Torbert, Gabriella Urso, Andrew Wagner, Gloria Wen, Abraham White, Isabella White, Dylan Work, and Bridget Yun;** and 2024-2025 seniors **Murugan Ayyanar, David Black, Milo Chiu, Elena Curran, Anna Delale O'Connor, Noelle Dick, Reed Echnat, Kai Edwards, Brooke Fenton, Benjamin Fiedler, Gabrielle Generett, Gabriella Hample, Rayna Huang, Etash Jhanji, Patton Johnson, Alex Kim, Arnim Kuchhal, Peter Mascilli, Devon McDonald, Noah Miller, Wyatt Muller, Salome Navas Grijalva, Zhana Neumann, Kyle Ong, Sangyon Park, Hannah Parker, Hyunoh Ro, Varad Sant, Rohit Velankar, JinLiang Zhang, and Yuqi Zhou.**

—The following graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor award by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams: 2024 graduates **Lincoln Baldwin, Isabella Barbour, Molly Ben, Maria Costantino, Camryn Eisner, Sage Good, Mikayla Korczynski, Jenna Lazaro, Connor Mazzoni, Rachel Milcheck, Ryan Napolitan, Can Pekkan, Anneliese Pham, Miguel Quercia Marcano, Gavin Rosswog, Claudia Smith, and Emily Staud;** and 2024-2025 seniors **Omar Al-Bataineh, Ainsley Anderson, Rebecca Chang, Malik Choset, Ava Condron, Eleanor Dering, Maya DiPasquale, Olivia Dugan, Moonyoung Hwang, Anna Kitner, Jonah Kline, Charles Larsen, Weidi Li, Swati Mylarappa, Aidan Ortiz, Rachel Pegher, Ava Persichetti, Francesco Pistella, Varnujah Rengaramanujam Kanagaraj, Josiah Rivera, Addison Rossi, Caroline Slember, Paige Solomon, Sophie Thorne, Luke Tsai, Samuel Ummer, Colette Walter, Mya Wilson, Caterina Wu, Timothy Ye, and Altai Yumak.**

—The following graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar award by receiving scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams: 2024 graduates **Ella Binger, Mireia Burkhardt, Mira Busch, Anna Dering, Jack Filter, Porter Hill, Caroline Hinz, Aiden Hirsch, Owen Levy, Kristopher Pizzella, Sophia Rike, Micah Shelley, Sarah Slember, and Parv Tahiliani;** 2024-2025 seniors **Katherine Banyas, Nicholas Clump, Tyler Goldstein, Natalie Hanlon, Alaina Hershey, Owen Howell, Madeleine Jones, Nicole Kang, Grace Kovach, Even Krieg, Joshua Lowe, Nathan Mackey, Alina Minturn, Stella Minturn, Anna Mohn, Pierce Osterholm, Vanessa Perez Milano, Melisa Pietz, Margaret Rusche, Keegan Scanlon, Jane Stone, Gianna Tavorario, Owen Zaremby, and Luca Zgurzynski;** and 2024-2025 juniors **Sophia Feng, Priscila Hayetian, Zinta Jacob, Ulyana Kubini, Simon Littwin, Max Melocchi, Joshua Shah, Lorenzo Smiraglio, and Anais Wang.**

Advanced Placement exams are graded on a 5-point scale, with 5 being the highest. Most of the nation's four-year colleges and universities award credit and/or advanced placement for qualifying exam scores. Every year, AP examinations are offered in a wide variety of subject areas, each consisting of multiple choice and free-response (essay or problem-solving) questions.

•Graduate Named National Winner in America's Field Trip Contest

Fox Chapel Area High School 2024 graduate **Benjamin Myers** was named a first-place national winner in the America's Field Trip contest. The competition is a new, nationwide scholastic contest and thousands of students from across the country submitted inspiring entries responding to the prompt, "What Does America Mean to You?". Entries included artwork, videos, and essays.

The entries were judged by current and former educators who selected 150 students as first- and second-place winners from 44 states and territories. There were three age-related categories, and Benjamin, who submitted an essay, was one of 25 (only two were from Pennsylvania) to be named a first-place winner in the high school category which included grades 9-12. Each first-place winner and one guest will have the opportunity to take part in a special field trip exploring some of America's iconic landmarks, historical sites, and cultural treasures across the country, with free travel and lodging.

According to an email from Rosie Rios, the chair of America250, "We are immensely proud of all the students who participated in the first-ever America's Field Trip competition. The submissions reflected diverse perspectives and an inspiring array of visions for our nation's future."

The America's Field Trip contest is a program of America250, the official nonpartisan entity charged by Congress with planning the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Funding for the competition was provided by The Bank of New York (BNY) Mellon Foundation.

•**Students Place in Regional Math Competition**

Five Fox Chapel Area School District students placed in the 2024 regional CalcuSolve tournament. Individually, Dorseyville Middle School 2023-2024 sixth-grader **Brian Xu** tied for second place and Fairview Elementary School 2023-2024 fifth-grader **Elena Brown** was awarded third place in the competition. Additionally, the Fairview Elementary School team of 2023-2024 fifth-graders Elena, **Dante DiNardo**, and **Prisha Jhanji**, and 2023-2024 fourth-grader **Daniel Wu** won second place in the team competition.

A total of 60 teams formed by 214 students participated in the contest from across Allegheny County and surrounding areas. The tournament was held virtually on May 15 and was sponsored by the Allegheny Intermediate Unit.

CalcuSolve is a competition that tests students' problem-solving skills related to mathematics. Students compete as part of a team, as well as individually.

•**High School Graduate Named Western Pennsylvania Positive Athlete**

Fox Chapel Area High School 2024 Graduate **Colin Lazzara** was named the 2024 Western Pennsylvania Boys Alternative Sport Positive Athlete for his participation in Unified Bocce. The awards, issued by the Western Pennsylvania Positive Athlete organization, are based on a student-athlete's character; positive attitude; and ability to lead, encourage, and respect everyone around them.

Colin played soccer and earned many honors and awards throughout his four years on the Foxes varsity team. Even before he reached the high school, Colin helped one of the special education teachers at Dorseyville Middle School by teaching some of her students how to play soccer.

After that experience, Colin knew he wanted to get involved with Best Buddies at the high school. Best Buddies is a program that connects people with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities through friendships, jobs, sports, and leadership.

Colin joined the group as a freshman and then, when Foxes varsity soccer concluded that season, he sought something different to do during the winter. That's when Best Buddies co-sponsor and high school transition facilitator, Dr. **Stacie Dojonovic**, encouraged him to join the Unified Sports program, which is affiliated with Special Olympics.

There are two Unified Sports teams at the high school, bocce and track & field, and Colin competed in both. He remained with both teams through his senior year and was named captain of the bocce team in his final year.

•**2024 Graduate Named to All-American Girls Lacrosse Team**

2024 graduate **Sydney Schutzman** was named to the All-American Girls Lacrosse Team. She is one of 42 students from across the state and one of only eight from Western Pennsylvania to be selected for the team. According to USA Lacrosse, an All-American is a player who exhibits superior skills and techniques and possesses exceptional game sense and knowledge. Additionally, a USA All-American is one of the best players in the United States, while also embodying excellent sportsmanship. The players are selected for the team by voting through coaches.

•**2024 Graduate Named to All-WPIAL Girls Lacrosse Team**

Fox Chapel Area High School 2024 graduate **Sydney Schutzman** was named to the 2024 All-WPIAL Class 3A Girls Lacrosse Team. A total of 14 players from Class 3A were chosen for the team.

•**Seven Named to All-Section Girls Lacrosse Teams**

Two 2024 graduates and five students were named to WPIAL Class 3A Section 2 girls lacrosse teams. 2024 graduate **Sydney Schutzman**, 2023-2024 junior **Megan Delaney**, and 2023-2024 sophomores **Caroline Grimsley** and **Caroline Leland** were named to the first team; 2023-2024 junior **Kennedy Murton** and 2023-2024 sophomore **Zehra Ozkaya** were named to the second team; and 2024 graduate **Lila Valkanas** received an honorable mention to the team.

•**Four Named to Big 56 All-Section Softball Teams**

One 2024 Fox Chapel Area High School graduate and three students were named to Western Pennsylvania Big 56 5A softball all-section teams. 2024 graduate **Mia Dunleavy** was named to the first team, 2023-2024 freshman **Jillian Haigh** was named to the second team, and 2023-2024 sophomores **Summer Burkhart** and **Ava Walmsley** received honorable mentions to the team.

•**Graduate and Student Named to Valley News Dispatch All-Star Teams**

Fox Chapel Area High School graduate and a student were named to Valley News Dispatch all-star softball teams. 2024 graduate **Mia Dunleavy** was named to the first team and freshmen **Jillian Haigh** was named to the second team. The teams were featured in the Sunday, June 23, Valley News Dispatch.

•**Graduate Selected for Special Softball Team**

2024 Fox Chapel Area High School graduate **Mia Dunleavy** was chosen to participate in the inaugural 2024 Western PA Senior Softball All-Star Game. Mia was selected to play third base. The black team played the gold team June 18 at Plum in a game that featured the WPIAL's top graduating players.

•**Seven Named to Big 56 All-Section Baseball Teams**

Four 2024 graduates and three students were named to Western Pennsylvania Big 56 5A baseball all-section teams. 2023-2024 juniors **Antonio LeDonne** and **Jeremy Haigh** were named to the first team; 2024 graduates **Benjamin DeMotte**, **Troy Susnak**, and **Christian Wilkinson** were named to the second team; and 2024 graduate **Mitchell Epstein** and 2023-2024 sophomore **Blake Krushinski** received honorable mentions to the team.

•**Two Students Named to Valley News Dispatch All-Star Baseball Teams**

Two Fox Chapel Area High School juniors were named to Valley News Dispatch all-star teams. **Jeremy Haigh** was named to the first team and **Antonio LeDonne** was named to the second team. The students were featured in the Sunday, June 23, 2024, Valley News Dispatch.

•**Graduate Top-Scorer in Roundball Classic Game**

Fox Chapel Area High School 2024 graduate **Jefferson Moorefield-Brown** was the top-scorer and was named the MVP for the WPIAL Class 5A silver team as part of the Roundball Classic basketball games. The top senior players from the WPIAL, City League, and District 10 were chosen to participate in the all-star games. The boys Class 5A games were played May 25 at North Allegheny High School.

Fox Chapel Area School Board Upcoming Meetings

September 9, 2024 – 7 p.m. – Combined Agenda Study Session & Reg. Business Mtg. – 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

November 11, 2024 – 7 p.m. – Regular Business Meeting Kerr Elementary Gym

December 3, 2024 (Tues.) – 7 p.m. – Reorg. Mtg. & Comb. Agenda Study Sess. & Reg. Bus. Mtg. – HS LGI Room

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Approved the minutes of the regular business meeting dated June 10, 2024.

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@fcsd.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.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS — Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, the Board took action on the following items of business:

Facilities/Transportation

School Bus Driver Approval – 2024-2025 School Year — Approved the hiring of ABC Transit, Inc., drivers from the list, subject to verification of all required licensing, clearances, and all other essential employment requirements for school bus operators under the laws of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The administration shall complete the verification prior to the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year.

Finance

Disbursements (Fund 10) – June 2024 — The general fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$13,005,987.12 from June 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024, were approved.

Disbursements (Fund 31) – June 2024 — The capital reserves fund disbursements (Fund 31) in the amount of \$28,691.82 from June 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024, were approved.

Disbursements (Fund 10) – July 2024 — The general fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$11,618,591.47 from July 1, 2024, through July 31, 2024, were approved.

Finance Report – May 2024 — The finance report for May 2024 was acknowledged and filed for audit.

Finance Report – June 2024 — The finance report for June 2024 was acknowledged and filed for audit.

Student Activity Financial Reports – Fourth Quarter 2023-2024 — The fourth quarter 2023-2024 middle school and high school student activity financial reports were acknowledged and filed for audit.

PowerSchool Group LLC – Agreement – Allvue Subscription — Approved the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and PowerSchool Group LLC for the Allvue subscription, for the period August 13, 2024, through December 31, 2026, at an initial cost of \$50,564.22 for 18 months including implementation fees, and a recurring cost of \$23,490 per year. **This is a new service.**

Instruction

Audubon Society of Western PA (K-4 Environmental Program) – Agreement — Approved the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania to provide the kindergarten through grade four environmental educational program for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost of \$33,150. **This is a renewal of services.**

Audubon Society of Western PA (5th-Grade Environmental Program) – Agreement — Approved the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania to provide the grade five environmental educational program for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost of \$82,850. **This is a renewal of services.**

Duquesne University – College in High School Letter of Agreement — Approved the college in high school letter of agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Duquesne University for the 2024-2025, 2025-2026, and 2026-2027 school years and authorized the administration to execute the agreement on behalf of the district. **This is a new partnership.**

Pressley Ridge Day School Autism – Addendum #7 to the Contractual Agreement — Approved Addendum #7 to the contractual agreement approved August 14, 2017, between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Pressley Ridge for services to students for the 2024-2025 school year. **This is a renewal of services.**

The Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children – Outreach Services Contract Agreement — Approved the outreach services contract agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children for services to students for the 2024-2025 school year effective August 30, 2024, through August 29, 2025. **This is a renewal of services.**

The School at McGuire Memorial – Educational Services Agreement — Approved the educational services agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and The School at McGuire Memorial for the 2024-2025 school year beginning August 28, 2024, through June 30, 2025, and the 2025 Extended School Year (ESY) program beginning July 7 through July 18, 2025. **This is a renewal of services.**

MHY Family Services – Longmore Academy – Agreement — Approved the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and MHY Family Services for services to students at Longmore Academy for the 2024-2025 school year. **This is a renewal of services.**

Step By Step Learning – Master Services Agreement — Approved the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Step By Step Learning to provide Title I services to Christ the Divine Teacher Academy for eligible Title I students residing within the Fox Chapel Area School District for the 2024-2025 school year effective August 12, 2024, through June 30, 2025. **This is a renewal of services.**

Wesley Family Services – Agreement — Ratified the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Wesley Family Services for child/adolescent Partial Hospital Program (PHP) services for the 2024-2025 school year, effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. **This is a renewal of services.**

The Watson Institute – Service Agreement — Ratified the service agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and The Watson Institute for training and consultation services effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. **This is a renewal of services.**

LearnWell – Agreement — Ratified the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and LearnWell for tutoring services effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost stated in Exhibit A. **This is a renewal of services.**

STAT Staffing Medical Services, Inc. – Staffing Agreement — Ratified the staffing agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and STAT Staffing Medical Services, Inc. to provide nursing services to the district effective June 20, 2024. **This is a renewal of services.**

The Bradley Center – Agreement for Educational Services — Ratified the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and The Bradley Center for educational services for students effective for the 2024-2025 school year. **This is a renewal of services.**

Allegheny Intermediate Unit IDEA-Section 619 – Pass Through Funds/Use of Funds Agreement — Ratified the sub-grant agreement for the implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)-Section 619 between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit #3 for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, and authorized the superintendent to execute the agreement on behalf of the district. **This is a renewal of services.**

Pittsburgh Behavioral Services, Inc. DBA PGH ABA – Educational Placement Service Agreement — Approved the educational placement service agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Pittsburgh Behavioral Services, Inc. DBA PGH ABA for special education services for the 2024-2025 school year. **This is a renewal of services.**

PHASE 4 Learning Center, Inc. – ACT 48 Program Agreement for Services — Approved the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and PHASE 4 Learning Center, Inc. for alternative education services for students for the 2024-2025 school year. **This is a renewal of services.**

The Watson Institute – The Education Center-Sewickley – Letter of Agreement — Approved the letter of agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and The Watson Institute for students enrolled in The Education Center-Sewickley for the 2024-2025 school year beginning August 22, 2024, and authorized the superintendent to execute the letter of agreement on behalf of the district. **This is a renewal of services.**

The Watson Institute – WISCA-Sharpsburg – Letter of Agreement — Approved the letter of agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and The Watson Institute for students enrolled in The Watson Institute Social Center for Academic Achievement (WISCA-Sharpsburg) for the 2024-2025 school year beginning August 22, 2024, and authorized the superintendent to execute the letter of agreement on behalf of the district. **This is a renewal of services.**

Leanlab Education – Memorandum of Understanding — Approved the memorandum of understanding between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Leanlab Education to join the American Group of Innovative Learning Environments (AGILE) Network and engage in a minimum of two co-design research projects over a period of time spanning two academic years. **This is a new partnership with Leanlab Education, there are no additional costs for the district, and the district will receive a grant of \$4,500 for its participation as a member.**

Personnel

Candidates for employment under this section were 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.

Resignations

Administration — Accepted the following administrative resignation:

- **John J. McGee**, Ph.D., program principal (M-Z) at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to retirement, effective March 25, 2025.

Custodial/Maintenance — Accepted the following custodial resignation:

- **Donna J. Elliott**, 10-month, 8 hours per day custodian at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to retirement, effective October 10, 2024.

Supplemental Contracts – Athletic — Accepted the following athletic supplemental contract resignations:

- **Allison McGrath**, basketball, girls, HS 1st assistant, due to personal reasons, effective June 19, 2024.
- **Deborah Welty**, wrestling, girls HS 1st assistant, due to personal reasons, effective June 29, 2024.

Supplemental Contract – Non-Athletic — Accepted the following non-athletic supplemental contract resignation:

- **Cheryl L. Etters**, art – MS department head, due to personal reasons, effective June 18, 2024.

Appointments

Administration — Approved the following administrative appointment:

- **Kevin B. Smetak**, M.Ed., as the program principal at O'Hara Elementary School effective date to be determined. Salary was set with benefits as per the Act 93 Agreement. This position is available due to the transfer of **Katelyn Toth**.

Professional — Approved the following professional appointments:

- **Monica M. Gralewski** as a special education teacher at Hartwood Elementary School effective August 14, 2024. Salary was set based on Step 2, B+0, with fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement. This position is available due to the transfer of **Heather Flynn**.
- **Cole R. Scisciani** as a Spanish teacher at Fox Chapel Area High School effective August 14, 2024. Salary was set based on Step 2, M+0, with fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement. This position is available due to the resignation of **Shannon Finley**.
- **Miranda M. Zarlino** as an elementary teacher at O'Hara Elementary School effective August 14, 2024. Salary was set based on Step 3, B+24, with fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement. This position is available due to increased enrollment.

Custodial/Maintenance — Approved the following maintenance appointments:

- **Myla A. Chirico** as a 10-month, 8-hour per day custodian at Hartwood Elementary School for a probationary period, effective August 19, 2024, pursuant to the Service Employees International Union Local 32BJ Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The salary and fringe benefits were set as per the CBA. This position is available due to the retirement of **John Malyszka**.
- **David A. Ploskunak** as a 12-month, 8-hour per day maintenance employee for the Fox Chapel Area School District for a probationary period, effective August 14, 2024, pursuant to the Service Employees International Union Local 32BJ Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The salary and fringe benefits were set as per the CBA. This position is available due to an anticipated resignation.

Food Services — Approved the following food services employee:

- **Sharon Tarasi** as a permanent, part-time (5 hours per day) food services employee at Fox Chapel Area High School. Hourly wage was set based on the wage scale for food services employees, General Food Worker, with no fringe benefits, effective August 15, 2024. This position is available due to the resignation of **Pamela Dolan**.

Supplemental Contracts – Athletic — The following athletic supplemental contracts were ratified, effective August 1, 2024: **Christopher Bandurski** – Basketball-Boys, Freshman Assistant (effective August 13, 2024); **John Baxter** – Fitness Center Supervisor, HS (50%) (effective August 13, 2024); **Gabriella Bonelli** – Intramurals, Spring-Girls, Fairview (50%) (effective August 13, 2024); **David Busch** – Golf-Girls, JV Head (50%) (effective August 1, 2024); **Amanda Kalin** – Basketball-Girls, HS 1st Assistant (effective August 13, 2024); **Isabella Lagazzi Rogazy** – Field Hockey, MS Assistant (effective August 1, 2024); **Julia Puntil** – Intramurals, Spring-Girls, Fairview (50%) (effective August 13, 2024); **Rory Marsico** – Soccer, Boys, MS Assistant (effective August 1, 2024); **Jason Rivera** – Wrestling, Girls HS 1st Assistant (50%) (effective August 13, 2024); **Mark Shemanski** – Fitness Center Supervisor, HS (50%) (effective August 13, 2024); **Bruce Valinsky** – Golf-Girls, JV Head (50%) (effective August 1, 2024); **Bruce Valinsky** – Basketball-Boys, Freshman Head (effective August 13, 2024); and **Deborah Welty** – Wrestling, Girls HS 1st Assistant (50%) (effective August 13, 2024).

Supplemental Contracts – Athletic – Spring Season 2024-2025 School Year — The following athletic supplemental contracts for the spring season of the 2024-2025 school year were ratified/approved: **James Hastings** – Baseball Head Coach (HS); **John Susi** – Baseball 1st Assistant Coach (HS); **Patrick Loughran** – Baseball 2nd Assistant Coach (HS); **Joseph Burger** – Baseball Junior Varsity Head Coach (HS); **Nathan Geller** – Baseball Junior Varsity 1st Assistant Coach (HS); **Christopher Bandurski** – Baseball Junior Varsity 2nd Assistant Coach (HS); **David Kotts** – Baseball Freshman Head Coach (HS); **Dr. James Jones** – Baseball Freshman Assistant Coach (HS); **Matthew Kamenicky** – Baseball Head Coach (DMS); **Lawrence Kamenicky** – Baseball Assistant Coach (DMS); **Jordon Hodder** – Boys Lacrosse Head Coach (HS); **Richard Correnti** – Boys Lacrosse 1st Assistant Coach (33%) (HS); **Ben Romah** – Boys Lacrosse 1st Assistant Coach (33%) (HS); **Romano Veneziano** – Boys Lacrosse 1st Assistant Coach (33%) (HS); **Richard Correnti** – Boys Lacrosse 2nd Assistant Coach (33%) (HS); **Ben Romah** – Boys Lacrosse 2nd Assistant Coach (33%) (HS); **Romano Veneziano** – Boys Lacrosse 2nd Assistant Coach (33%) (HS); **Kellee Cribby** – Girls Lacrosse Head Coach (HS); **Eleni McGrath** – Girls Lacrosse 1st Assistant Coach (HS); **Kelsey Lancon** – Girls Lacrosse 2nd Assistant Coach (HS); Open – Softball Head Coach (HS); Open – Softball 1st Assistant Coach (HS); Open – Softball Junior Varsity Head Coach (HS); **John Stout** – Softball Head Coach (DMS); **Jonathan Berkowitz** – Softball Assistant Coach (DMS); **Alexander Slezak** – Boys Tennis Head Coach (HS); **Dr. Laura Ward** – Boys Tennis Assistant Coach (HS); **Thomas Moul** – Boys/Girls Track Head Coach (HS); **Scott Karavlan** – Boys/Girls Track 1st Assistant Coach (HS); **Justin Patterson** – Boys/Girls Track 2nd Assistant Coach (HS); **Eric Norberg** – Boys/Girls Track 3rd Assistant Coach (HS); **Mark Shemanski** – Boys/Girls Track 4th Assistant Coach (HS); **Sean Mawhinney** – Boys/Girls Track 5th Assistant Coach (HS); **Timothy McLister** – Boys/Girls Track 6th Assistant Coach (HS); **Emily Grychowski** – Boys/Girls Track Head Coach (DMS); **Scott Vensel** – Boys/Girls Track 1st Assistant Coach (DMS); **Douglas Kitay** – Boys/Girls Track 2nd Assistant Coach (DMS); **James Neely** – Boys/Girls Track 3rd Assistant Coach (DMS); **Matthew LaPatka** – Boys/Girls Track 4th Assistant Coach (DMS); **Dr. Stacie Dojonovic** – Unified Track; **Deborah Welty** – Unified Track; **Anna Hopper** – Unified Track; **Philip O’Keeffe** – Boys Volleyball Head Coach (HS); Open – Boys Volleyball Assistant Coach (HS); **Gregory Laun** – Boys Volleyball Head Coach (DMS); and **Caitlin Paul** – Boys Volleyball Assistant Coach (Partial Salary) (DMS).

Substitute Athletic Trainer — Approved the hiring of the following substitute athletic trainer:

- **Erin Zedreck** as a substitute certified athletic trainer, effective August 13, 2024, at an hourly rate.

Leaves

Professional — Approved the following professional leaves:

- **Gabriella E. Haberman**, elementary teacher at O’Hara Elementary School, for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective October 31, 2024, with return scheduled for March 28, 2025.
- **Allan C. Quackenbush**, physical education teacher at Dorseyville Middle School, for a medical sabbatical, effective August 14, 2024, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2025-2026 school year.

Leave Replacements

Administration — Approved the following intermittent leave replacement:

- **Paul S. Noro**, Ed.D., as an intermittent leave replacement program principal for the Fox Chapel Area School District, effective August 14, 2024, at a daily rate. If evening hours are required, the daily rate for that day will be higher. This position is available due to the needs of the district.

Professional — Approved the following professional leave replacements:

- **Anna N. Steen** as a leave replacement teacher at O'Hara Elementary School effective August 14, 2024, through the day after the last day for students for the 2024-2025 school year. Salary was set based on Step 1, B+0, with fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement. This position is available due to increased enrollment.
- **Natalia A. Steen** as a leave replacement school counselor at O'Hara Elementary School effective August 14, 2024, through the day after the last day for students for the 2024-2025 school year. Salary was set based on Step 2, M+0, with fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement. This position is available due to the resignation of **Emily Maropis**.

Change of Status

Educational Support — Approved the following secretarial change of status:

- **Melissa L. Zimmerman**, pupil services secretary for the Fox Chapel Area School District, as the 10-month building secretary at Kerr Elementary School, effective date to be determined. Salary was set based on the salary scale for 10-month secretaries, Step 4, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the retirement of **Susan Pesci**.

Professional Employee

Assignments — The professional employee assignments for the 2024-2025 school term were approved.

Summer Program – 2024

Middle School — The following individuals were ratified as substitute instructors for the Dorseyville Middle School Summer Learning Academy at an hourly rate: **Lynn D. Erdos**, **Douglas R. Kitay**, and **Andrew J. Richards**.

Volunteer

Athletic — The following athletic volunteer was approved for the 2024-2025 school year, effective August 13, 2024: **Kevin Carney** – Soccer, Boys, HS.

Personnel Information Item

Tenure – Information — The following employees are eligible for a Professional Employee's Contract (tenure): **Shannon Finley** (effective August 13, 2024); **Jessica Gentilcore** (effective August 16, 2024); **Gabriella Haberman** (effective August 16, 2024); **Kirstein Sharrow** (effective August 16, 2024); and **Emily Sucheich** (effective August 16, 2024).

Operations/Cooperative Services

Authorization to Advertise to Rebid – Hartwood Elementary School HVAC Project Electrical Construction Contract — Authorize the advertisement to rebid the electrical construction contract for the Hartwood Elementary School HVAC project.

Safety Incentive Program — Approved the Fox Chapel Area School District safety incentive program for the period October 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025, for district employees at an estimated cost of \$8,000.

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.

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT — The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

The Fox Chapel Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, and/or any other basis prohibited by law, and prohibits discrimination, including harassment, in any employment practice, education program, or activity that it operates. Retaliation against anyone who, in good faith, makes a report of harassment or discrimination, files a complaint of harassment or discrimination, serves as a witness, or participates in an investigation or grievance process is also a violation of the Fox Chapel Area School District's nondiscrimination policy and is prohibited.

To report information about conduct that may constitute discrimination under Title IX, Section 504, or the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please refer to the district's nondiscrimination policy and grievance procedures at www.fcasd.edu/about-us/need-to-know-disclosures/compliance-statement.

The Fox Chapel Area School District has designated individuals to coordinate efforts to comply with and carry out its nondiscrimination responsibilities. Questions regarding the Fox Chapel Area School District's commitment to nondiscrimination, as well as related laws, regulations, and district policies, may be referred to the following employees:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <i>Title IX:</i> | <i>David P. McCommons, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent (412/967-2456) David_McCommons@fcasd.edu</i> |
| <i>Section 504 and ADA:</i> | <i>Timothy A. Mahoney, Ed.D., Director of Special Education and Pupil Services (412/967-2435) Timothy_Mahoney@fcasd.edu</i> |
| <i>Address:</i> | <i>Fox Chapel Area School District, 611 Field Club Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238</i> |