

November 11, 2024

CALL TO ORDER — The Board of School Directors of the Fox Chapel Area School District held its regular business meeting at Kerr Elementary School November 11, 2024. President Marybeth Dadd called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Also in attendance were Vice President Ronald P. Frank; Assistant Secretary Vanessa K. Lynch; Amy B. Cooper; Katie Findley; Adam G. Goode; Jessica Haselkorn, Ph.D.; and Ariel Zych.

GUESTS (November 4, 2024)

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

•The Fox Chapel Area High School boys varsity golf team won the WPIAL Class 3A Section 7 title. The team members were seniors **Matthew Begg, Milan Golla, Parker Haberman, Brody Helsel, and Davis Kittsley**; juniors **David DiGregory, Anderson Dockey, Grady Johnson, Griffin McCaffrey, and Samuel Troutman**; sophomore **Carson Kittsley**; and freshman **Barron Bitar**. This is the fourth consecutive year the team won a section championship. The team's section record was 10-0, and the overall record was 16-2.

Additionally, Carson was crowned the PIAA Class 3A individual golf champion. He is only the second boys golfer in Fox Chapel Area High School history to win a state title. The first was Frank Fuhrer in 1976. The PIAA Class 3A individual championships were held October 21 and 22, 2024, at the Penn State Golf Courses. Prior to that, Carson was also named the WPIAL Class 3A Section 7 individual golf champion on September 18 at the Fox Run Golf Course.

•The Fox Chapel Area High School boys varsity cross country team qualified for the PIAA Cross Country Championships and won the WPIAL Class 3A Section 4 title. The team was undefeated in its section (7-0) for the sixth consecutive year. The team members were seniors **David Black, Nicholas Clump, Douglas Lisotto, and Ethan Vaughan**; junior **Michael Costello**; sophomores **Nolan Gwin, Nolan Horne, Harrison Parker, and Victor White**; and freshman **David Culley**.

Additionally, two members of the girls cross country team, sophomore **Cecilia Ressler** and freshman **Ella Shevchuk**, also qualified for the PIAA Cross Country Championships.

Ethan was also the individual first-place winner at the WPIAL Cross Country Championships, and he was the individual champion at the Tri-State Track Coaches Association (TSTCA) championships.

The PIAA Cross Country Championships were held November 2, 2024, in Hershey. The WPIAL Cross Country Championships were held October 24, and the TSTCA championships were held October 17, both at White Oak Park. The WPIAL Class 3A Section 4 championship was held October 2 at Northmoreland Park.

FOX LEADERSHIP COUNCIL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES — Fox Chapel Area High School Fox Leadership Council Community Outreach leaders senior **Avanti Muvvala** and junior **Emily Korczynski** spoke about the recent community service efforts of the group, including Pink for the Cure and an upcoming food drive.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Enrollment and Fire Drills — Received the enrollment and the fire drills report.

Textbook for Review (Updated Copyright) — The textbook listed below will be recommended for approval at the December 3, 2024, Board meeting. It is available for review until that time in the administrative offices.

Fox Chapel Area High School – Business Education

— "Entrepreneurship: Ideas in Action, 7th Student Edition" Cynthia L. Greene; Publisher: Cengage Learning; Updated Copyright 2025; for Entrepreneurship Grades 10-12

Information

•**High School Earns AP School Honor Roll Recognition**

Fox Chapel Area High School was honored by the College Board by being placed on the Advanced Placement (AP) School Honor Roll, earning a Silver distinction. The AP School Honor Roll recognizes schools whose AP programs are delivering results for students while broadening access. Schools can earn this recognition annually based on criteria that reflect a commitment to increasing college-going culture, providing opportunities for students to earn college credit, and maximizing college readiness.

“AP gives students opportunity to engage with college-level work, to earn college credit and placement, and to potentially boost their grade point averages,” said Trevor Packer, head of the AP program. “The schools that have earned this distinction are proof that it is possible to expand access to these college-level courses and still drive strong performance – they represent the best of AP.”

Fox Chapel Area High School offers AP courses in English (language and literature), American history, modern European history, economics, government and politics (U.S.), world history, psychology, human geography, computer science, principles of computer science, chemistry, Physics C Electricity and Magnetism, Physics C Mechanics, Calculus AB and BC, statistics, music theory, biology, environmental science, French, Spanish, German, Latin, studio art, and art history.

The College Board’s AP Program enables students to pursue college-level studies – with the opportunity to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both – while still in high school. Through AP courses in 38 subjects, each culminating in a challenging exam, students learn to think critically, construct solid arguments, and see many sides of an issue, giving them skills that prepare them for college and beyond.

Fox Chapel Area School Board Upcoming Meetings

November 12, 2024 – 6 p.m. – Governance Committee Mtg. – Administrative Offices Staff Development Room

November 19, 2024 – 6 p.m. – Academic Committee Mtg. – Administrative Offices Staff Development Room

November 26, 2024 – 6 p.m. – Projects and Planning Committee Mtg. – Admin. Offices Staff Development Rm.

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

January 7, 2025 – 6 p.m. – Governance Committee Meeting – Administrative Offices Staff Development Room

January 14, 2025 – 6 p.m. – Academic Committee Meeting – Administrative Offices Staff Development Room

January 21, 2025 – 6 p.m. – Projects and Planning Committee Mtg. – Admin. Offices Staff Development Room

February 4, 2025 – 6 p.m. – Governance Committee Meeting – Administrative Offices Staff Development Room

February 11, 2025 – 6 p.m. – Academic Committee Meeting – Administrative Offices Staff Development Room

February 18, 2025 – 6 p.m. – Projects and Planning Committee Mtg. – Admin. Offices Staff Development Room

March 11, 2025 – 6 p.m. – Governance Committee Meeting – Administrative Offices Staff Development Room

March 18, 2025 – 6 p.m. – Projects and Planning Committee – Administrative Offices Staff Development Room

April 28, 2025 – 6 p.m. – Academic Committee Meeting – Administrative Offices Staff Development Room

A Lens on Learning — Each month, we focus on student work in our schools to highlight lessons, growth, and successes of all kinds. This month, O’Hara Elementary School Principal Dr. **Kristy Batis**, Program Principal **Kevin Smetak**, PTO President **Kate Malyszka**, Foxes Club Chair **Mallory Bernstein**, and four students talked about the O’Hara Foxes Club. The program is PTO-sponsored and provides a variety of after-school opportunities for interested students. The sessions that the PTO offers help support the district’s four pillars for success: purpose, passion, care, and community.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Approved the minutes of the regular business meeting dated October 14, 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:

Finance

Disbursements (Fund 10) – October 2024 — The general fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$10,410,035.38 from October 1, 2024, through October 31, 2024, were approved.

Disbursements (Fund 31) – October 2024 — The capital reserves fund disbursements (Fund 31) in the amount of \$776,982.55 from October 1, 2024, through October 31, 2024, were approved.

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

Budget Transfers — Several budget transfers for 2024-2025 were approved.

Student Activity Financial Reports — The first quarter 2024-2025 middle school and high school student activity financial reports were acknowledged and filed for audit.

Award of Bids – Athletic — The administration was authorized to award the following bids for the 2024-2025 school year:

Athletic Supplies Bids – Spring – BSN Sports, LLC, P.O. Box 7726, Dallas, TX 75209 – \$577.42; Century Sports, Inc., 115 E. McMurray Road, McMurray, PA 15317 – \$6,176.14; MF Athletic, 1600 Division Road, West Warwick, RI 02893 – \$188.00; Natale Sporting Goods, 209 Fifth Avenue, McKeesport, PA 15132 – \$7,775.42; and Pyramid School Products, 6510 North 54th Street, Tampa, FL 33610 – \$1,179.45.

Instruction

January 2025 Graduates — The following students are eligible for midyear graduation, subject to final approval by the high school lead principal: **Caleb Adams, Maleke Butler-Austin, Aidan Byrnes, Cameron Cavlovich, Henry Chamberlain, John Conway, Maria Gill, Finnigan Holton, Moonyoung Hwang, Kaelynn MacFarlane, Isa McCutcheon, Swati Mylarappa, Gavin Owings, and Shay Pick.**

Camp Allegheny Inc. – Group Contract — Approved the group contract between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Camp Allegheny Inc. for lodging, meals, and meeting spaces for the fifth-grade environmental education program in the fall of 2025, dates to be determined. **This is a renewal of services.**

Junior Achievement of Western Pennsylvania – JA BizTown Contracts — Approved the contracts between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Junior Achievement of Western Pennsylvania for fourth-grade students to participate in JA BizTown for the 2024-2025 school year at an estimated cost of \$8,750, and authorized the administration to execute the contracts on behalf of the district. **These are renewals of contracts.**

Stipulated Adjudication — Approved the stipulated adjudication as presented.

Legislation/Policy

Policies – Revised – Second Reading and Adoption — Approved the second reading and adoption of the following revised policies: No. 218 – Student Discipline, No. 218.1 – Weapons, No. 249 – Bullying/ Cyberbullying, No. 323 – Tobacco and Vaping Products, No. 351 – Controlled Substance Abuse, No. 707 – Use of School Facilities, No. 801 – Public Records, No. 805 – Emergency Preparedness and Response, No. 805.1 – Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies, No. 806 – Child Abuse, and No. 904 – Public Attendance at School Events.

Policies – Revised – First Reading — Approved the first reading of the following revised policies: No. 613 – Cooperative Purchasing, No. 614 – Payroll Authorization, No. 615 – Payroll Deductions, No. 616 – Payment of Bills, No. 617 – Petty Cash, No. 618 – Student Activity Funds, No. 619 – District Audit, No. 621 – Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights, No. 622 – GASB Statement 34, No. 624 – Taxable Fringe Benefits, No. 625 – Procurement Cards, No. 626 – Federal Fiscal Compliance, and No. 626.1 – Travel Reimbursement – Federal Programs.

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

Custodial/Maintenance— Accepted the following custodial resignation:

- **John A. Miller**, 12-month, 8 hours per day custodian at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to personal reasons, effective October 21, 2024.

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

- **Breane DeComo**, intramurals, MS activity sponsor 12, MS ski club (50%), due to personal reasons, effective October 14, 2024.

Appointments

Educational Support — Approved the following secretarial appointment:

- **Sarah Gatty** as a 12-month building secretary at Fairview Elementary School, effective November 25, 2024. Salary was set based on the salary scale for 12-month secretaries, Step 3, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the transfer of **Heidi Celender**.

Supplemental Contracts – Athletic — The following athletic supplemental contracts were approved/ratified:

Emily Grychowski – Intramurals, MS Activity Sponsor 12, MS Ski Club (effective November 12, 2024); **Jonathan Linkes** – Softball, HS 1st Assistant (effective October 20, 2024); and **Maura Pasquale** – Softball, HS JV Head (effective October 20, 2024).

Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic — The following non-athletic supplemental contracts were ratified:

Kerri Bacco – Mentor Teacher – Fairview (50%) (effective November 6, 2024), **Gabriella Bonelli** – Mentor Teacher – Fairview (50%) (effective November 6, 2024), and **Lisa Pacheco** – Mentor Teacher – O’Hara (effective November 1, 2024).

Leave

Professional — Approved the following professional leave:

- **Samantha M. Diamond**, 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 February 3, 2025, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2025-2026 school year.

Leave Replacements

Professional — Ratified the following professional leave replacements:

- **Amanda L. Gaydos** as a leave replacement reading support teacher at Fairview Elementary School effective November 6, 2024, through March 28, 2025. Salary was set (prorated) based on Step 1, M+0, with fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement. This position is available due to the childrearing leave of **Emily Hinojosa**.
- **Nicolas A. Luciano** as a leave replacement elementary teacher at O’Hara Elementary School effective October 30, 2024, through March 27, 2025. Salary was set (prorated) based on Step 3, M+0, with fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement. This position is available due to the childrearing leave of **Gabriella Haberman**.
- **Jessica E. Zarlino** as a leave replacement elementary teacher at O’Hara Elementary School effective November 1, 2024, through March 27, 2025. Salary was set (prorated) based on Step 1, B+0, with fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement. This position is available due to the childrearing leave of **Gina Sacriponte**.

Extra Innings

Teachers — The following individuals were approved as Extra Innings teachers for the 2024-2025 school year at an hourly rate for a maximum of 45 hours, including planning/instruction: **Fairview Elementary School** – **Gabriella Bonelli, Lisa Collins, Wendy Donaldson, Amanda Gaydos, and Julia Puntil**; **Hartwood Elementary School** – **Kati Altieri, Jennifer Billings, Lynn DePellegrini, Katherine Frederick, Rebecca Grzebyk, and Therese Wilk**; **Kerr Elementary School** – **Stephanie Abriatis, Sean Baldis, Kristin Bashforth, Carrie Ferguson, Kirstein Sharrow, and Mira Steen**; and **O’Hara Elementary School** – **Adam Danielson, Alexis Hurlbut, Nicolas Luciano, Tracey Planz, and Anna Steen**.

Teachers — **Kelly Services** — The following individuals were approved as Extra Innings teachers for the 2024-2025 school year for a flat stipend for a maximum of 45 hours including planning/instruction, with partial participation being prorated (this method of payment is in accordance with Kelly Educational Staffing’s regulations regarding substitutes employed by the district): **Fairview Elementary School** – **Allison Christy** and **O’Hara Elementary School** – **Carley Hammers**.

Substitute Teachers — The following individual was approved as an Extra Innings substitute teacher for the 2024-2025 school year at an hourly rate: **Hartwood Elementary** – **Anne Hook**.

Substitute Teachers — Kelly Services — The individual listed below was approved as an Extra Innings substitute teacher for the 2024-2025 school year for a prorated flat stipend, based on days worked (this method of payment is in accordance with Kelly Educational Staffing’s regulations regarding substitutes employed by the district): **Kerr Elementary School – Samantha Rihn.**

Instructional Assistants (Maximum of 12 Hours) — The following individuals were approved as Extra Innings instructional assistants for the 2024-2025 school year at an hourly rate for a maximum of 12 hours, including planning/instruction: **Fairview Elementary School – Amy Ruane and Shelley Zottola.**

Instructional Assistants (Maximum of 24 Hours) — The following individuals were approved as Extra Innings instructional assistants for the 2024-2025 school year at an hourly rate for a maximum of 24 hours, including planning/instruction: **Hartwood Elementary School – Rosanne Libengood, Kerr Elementary School – Colleen Kozak, and O’Hara Elementary School – Leanne Zottola.**

Volunteer

Athletic — The following athletic volunteer was approved, effective November 12, 2024: **Matthew Seethaler** – Softball, MS.

Correction

Supplemental Contract – Athletic — The resignation of **Zachary A. Price**, intramurals, MS activity sponsor 12, MS ski club (50%), due to personal reasons, previously accepted effective September 10, 2024, is accepted effective October 8, 2024.

Operations/Cooperative Services

Award of Electrical Construction Contract – Hartwood Elementary School HVAC Project — Approved to award a contract to the following bidder on the Hartwood Elementary School HVAC project conditioned upon the contractor completing their post-bid award documents: to Right Electric Inc., for the Electrical Construction Contract, with a base bid amount of \$577,700 and accepting Alternate EC-01 in the amount of \$807,700; Alternate EC-02 in the amount of \$164,400; Alternate EC-03 in the amount of \$211,100; Alternate EC-04 for a deduction of \$44,400; and Alternate EC-05 in the amount of \$158,800 for a total contract award of \$1,875,300. **This was reviewed and recommended by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority.**

Student Teaching Affiliation Agreement — Approved the following student teaching affiliation agreement: Wilson College.

UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh Ronald McDonald Care Mobile Letter of Agreement — Approved the letter of agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh Ronald McDonald Care Mobile for health services to students effective November 12, 2024, at no cost to the district. **This is a new letter of agreement.**

Donation – Fox Chapel Area High School Robotics Club — Accepted the donation of \$5,000 from Westinghouse for the Fox Chapel Area High School Robotics Club, to support the BotsIQ team and its robot development.

Donation – JAM #bethekindkid — Accepted the donation of \$450 from JAM #bethekindkid to be used toward Project Kindness (\$200) and to purchase a button maker (\$250) at Dorseyville Middle School.

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@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.

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT — The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 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>