

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

NOVEMBER 11, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The regular business meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fox Chapel Area School District was called to order by president, Marybeth Dadd, at 7:05 p.m. on November 11, 2024, in the Gym at Kerr Elementary School. Ms. Dadd announced that immediately prior to tonight's public meeting, members of the Board met in executive session to discuss a confidential matter that, if discussed in public, would lead to the disclosure of information protected by law; to discuss matters related to the evaluation of employee performance; and to discuss a topic related to school safety and security that if discussed in public may jeopardize the effectiveness of the measure.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL-CALL

The Board members present at roll call were Mrs. Cooper, Ms. Dadd, Ms. Findley, Mr. Frank, Mr. Goode, Dr. Haselkorn, Mrs. Lynch, and Ms. Zych. Absent was Mr. Hamilton. Also present were Dr. Reljac, Dr. McCommons, Mr. Giuffre, and Mrs. Anuszek. Other members of the public were present.

GUESTS

There were no guests.

FOX LEADERSHIP COUNCIL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Community Outreach leaders Avanti Muvvala and Emily Korczynski gave a report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

•Textbook for Review

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.

Updated Copyright of Current Textbook:

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

•Dr. Reljac congratulated Dorseyville Middle School for receiving two national awards. The middle school was recognized as a 2024 National Blue Ribbon School in the category of exemplary high performing schools, and as a 2024 Association for Middle Level Education School of Distinction.

•A Lens on Learning – Each month, we focus on student work in our schools to highlight lessons, growth, and successes of all kinds.

Tonight's presentation focused on the O'Hara Foxes Club at O'Hara Elementary School.

The O'Hara Foxes Club is a PTO-sponsored after-school program that provides a variety of opportunities for interested students. The sessions support the district's four pillars for success: purpose, passion, care, and community.

• **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.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

There was no report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Dadd asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular business meeting dated October 14, 2024. On motion by Mr. Frank and seconded by Ms. Zych, the minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

The superintendent recommended that action be taken on the following items of business:

FACILITIES/TRANSPORTATION

A. Facilities/Transportation

There was no business.

FINANCE

B. Finance

On motion by Dr. Haselkorn and seconded by Mr. Frank, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Finance items:

1. Disbursements (Fund 10) – October 2024

General fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$10,410,035.38 from October 1, 2024, through October 31, 2024, are approved.

2. Disbursements (Fund 31) – October 2024

Capital reserves fund disbursements (Fund 31) in the amount of \$776,982.55 from October 1, 2024, through October 31, 2024, are approved.

3. Finance Report – September 2024

The finance report for September 2024 is acknowledged and filed for audit.

4. Budget Transfers

The budget transfers for 2024-2025 are approved.

5. Student Activity Financial Reports

The first quarter 2024-2025 middle school and high school student activity financial reports are acknowledged and filed for audit.

6. Award of Bids – Athletic

The administration is 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
Pyramid School Products 6510 North 54th Street Tampa, FL 33610	\$1,179.45

INSTRUCTION

C. Instruction

On motion by Mrs. Cooper and seconded by Ms. Findley, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Instruction items:

1. 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	Shay Pick	

2. Camp Allegheny Inc. – Group Contract

Approve 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.**

3. Junior Achievement of Western Pennsylvania – JA BizTown Contracts

Approve 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 authorize the administration to execute the contracts on behalf of the district. **These are renewals of contracts.**

4. Stipulated Adjudication

Approve the stipulated adjudication as presented.

LEGISLATION/POLICY

D. Legislation/Policy

On motion by Mr. Frank and seconded by Mrs. Cooper, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Legislation/Policy items:

1. Policies – Revised – Second Reading and Adoption

Approve 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
- No. 904 – Public Attendance at School Events

2. Policies – Revised – First Reading

Approve 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
- No. 626.1 – Travel Reimbursement – Federal Programs

PERSONNEL

E. Personnel

Candidates for employment under this section are 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.

On motion by Ms. Zych and seconded by Mr. Frank, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Personnel items:

1. Resignations

a. Custodial/Maintenance

- (1) The resignation of John A. Miller, 12-month, 8 hours per day custodian at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective October 21, 2024.

b. Supplemental Contract – Athletic

- (1) The resignation of Breane DeComo, intramurals, MS activity sponsor 12, MS ski club (50%), due to personal reasons, is accepted effective October 14, 2024.

2. Appointments

a. Educational Support

- (1) Sarah Gatty is approved as a 12-month building secretary at Fairview Elementary School, effective November 25, 2024. Salary is 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.

b. Supplemental Contracts – Athletic

- (1) The following athletic supplemental contracts are ratified, effective October 20, 2024:

Jonathan Linkes	Softball, HS 1st Asst.	\$4,303
Maura Pasquale	Softball, HS JV Head	\$4,028

- (2) The following athletic supplemental contract is approved, effective November 12, 2024:

Emily Grychowski Intramurals, MS Activity Sponsor 12, MS Ski Club \$2,063

c. Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic

- (1) The following non-athletic supplemental contract is ratified effective November 1, 2024:

Lisa Pacheco Mentor Teacher – O’Hara \$1,132.23

- (2) The following non-athletic supplemental contracts are ratified effective November 6, 2024:

Kerri Bacco Mentor Teacher – Fairview (50%) \$554.12
Gabiella Bonelli Mentor Teacher – Fairview (50%) \$554.12

3. Leave

a. Professional

- (1) Samantha M. Diamond, elementary teacher at O’Hara Elementary School, is approved 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.

4. Leave Replacements

a. Professional

- (1) Amanda L. Gaydos is ratified as a leave replacement reading support teacher at Fairview Elementary School. This position is available due to the childrearing leave of Emily Hinojosa.

Certification: Instructional I
Education: B.S., Slippery Rock University, 2022
Experience: Student Teaching, Deer Lakes School District
Effective: November 6, 2024, through March 28, 2025
Salary: \$66,668 (prorated) based on Step 1, M+0
Fringe Benefits: As per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

- (2) Nicolas A. Luciano is ratified as a leave replacement elementary teacher at O’Hara Elementary School. This position is available due to the childrearing leave of Gabiella Haberman.

Certification: Instructional I
Education: M.A., Wheeling Jesuit University, 2021
 B.A., Wheeling Jesuit University, 2020
Experience: 1 year, Fox Chapel Area School District
 1 year, Ohio County School District, WV
Effective: October 30, 2024, through March 27, 2025
Salary: \$67,718 (prorated) based on Step 3, M+0
Fringe Benefits: As per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

- (3) Jessica E. Zarlino is ratified as a leave replacement elementary teacher at O’Hara Elementary School. This position is available due to the childrearing leave of Gina Sacriponte.

Certification: Instructional I
Education: B.S., Pennsylvania Western University, 2023
Experience: Student Teaching, Belle Vernon Area School District
Effective: November 1, 2024, through March 27, 2025
Salary: \$58,368 (prorated) based on Step 1, B+0
Fringe Benefits: As per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

5. Extra Innings

a. Teachers

- (1) The following individuals are approved as Extra Innings teachers for the 2024-2025 school year at a rate of \$31.54 per hour for a maximum of 45 hours, including planning/instruction:

Fairview Elementary School

Gabriella Bonelli
Lisa Collins
Wendy Donaldson
Amanda Gaydos
Julia Puntil

Hartwood Elementary School

Kati Altieri
Jennifer Billings
Lynn DePellegrini
Katherine Frederick
Rebecca Grzebyk
Therese Wilk

Kerr Elementary School

Stephanie Abriatis
Sean Baldis
Kristin Bashforth
Carrie Ferguson
Kirstein Sharrow
Mira Steen

O’Hara Elementary School

Adam Danielson
Alexis Hurlbut
Nicolas Luciano
Tracey Planz
Anna Steen

- (2) The individuals listed below are approved as Extra Innings teachers for the 2024-2025 school year for a stipend of \$1,305 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

**O'Hara Elementary School
Carley Hammers**

b. Substitute Teachers

- (1) The following individual is approved as an Extra Innings substitute teacher for the 2024-2025 school year at a rate of \$31.54 per hour:

**Hartwood Elementary
Anne Hook**

- (2) The individual listed below is approved as an Extra Innings substitute teacher for the 2024-2025 school year for a prorated stipend up to \$1,305, 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**

c. Instructional Assistants

- (1) The following individuals are approved as Extra Innings instructional assistants for the 2024-2025 school year at a rate of \$20 per hour for a maximum of 12 hours, including planning/instruction:

**Fairview Elementary School
Amy Ruane
Shelley Zottola**

- (2) The following individuals are approved as Extra Innings instructional assistants for the 2024-2025 school year at a rate of \$20 per hour for a maximum of 24 hours, including planning/instruction:

**Hartwood Elementary School
Rosanne Libengood**

**Kerr Elementary School
Colleen Kozak**

**O'Hara Elementary School
Leanne Zottola**

6. Volunteer – Athletic

- a. The following athletic volunteer is approved, effective November 12, 2024:

Matthew Seethaler Softball, MS

7. Correction

a. Supplemental Contract – Athletic

- (1) 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

F. Operations/Cooperative Services

On motion by Mr. Goode and seconded by Ms. Findley, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Operations/Cooperative Services items:

1. Award of Electrical Construction Contract – Hartwood Elementary School HVAC Project

Approve to award a contract to the bidder listed below on the Hartwood Elementary School HVAC project conditioned upon the contractor completing their post-bid award documents. **This was reviewed and recommended by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority.**

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.

2. Student Teaching Affiliation Agreement

Approve the following student teaching affiliation agreement:

Wilson College

3. UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh Ronald McDonald Care Mobile Letter of Agreement

Approve 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.**

4. Donation – Fox Chapel Area High School Robotics Club

Accept 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.

5. Donation – JAM #bethekindkid

Accept 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

There were no comments.

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

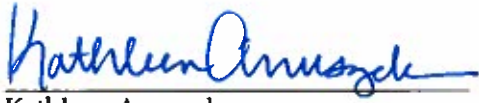
There was no report.

BOARD COMMENTS

There were eight comments. Ms. Dadd, Dr. Haselkorn, Mrs. Lynch, Ms. Findley, Mr. Frank, Mrs. Cooper, Ms. Zych, and Mr. Goode commented.

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.



Kathleen Anuszek
Board Secretary