

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

COMBINED AGENDA STUDY SESSION
AND REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

DECEMBER 3, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The combined agenda study session and regular business meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fox Chapel Area School District was called to order by president, Marybeth Dadd, at 7:18 p.m. on December 3, 2024, in the LGI Room at Fox Chapel Area High School.

ROLL-CALL

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

GUESTS

•The Fox Chapel Area High School boys varsity soccer team won the WPIAL Class 4A title and the WPIAL Class 4A Section 3 title. The team members were seniors **Kellan Bleier, Milo Chiu, Jonah Kline, Carson Krushansky, Aidan Stein, Luke Tsai, and Bradford Zimmerman**; juniors **Chase Carney, Joseph DeMartino, Rocco Didomenico, Eduardo Guirola Diaz, Calyx Kimbrough, Jaxson Lapiana, Patrick Levy, Brady Matthews, Sean Regan, Evan Saunders, Lorenzo Smiraglio, Nicolas Squeglia, Jacob Williams, and Michael Winter**; sophomores **Paul Fitzsimmons, Rocco Poli, David Zakrocki, and Sharif Zureikat**; and freshmen **Max Fortun and Carson Torres**. The team's section record was 8-2, and the overall record was 14-5-2. The team also qualified for the PIAA team tournament. The WPIAL championships were held November 1, 2024, at Highmark Stadium. This was the first WPIAL soccer title for the boys team in 29 years.

•The Fox Chapel Area High School girls varsity soccer team won the WPIAL Class 3A Section 1 title. The team members were seniors **Elena Curran, Maya DiPasquale, Madeline Grimsley, Gianna Patterson, Alyssa Quackenbush, Paige Solomon, Ariana Stevenson, Sophie Thorne, Bella Urso, and Teagan Welty**; juniors **Cassie Classen, Summer Hill, Emily Korczynski, and Lily McLaughlin**; sophomores **Antonia Linzoain, Emily McKee, Lia Pizzella, Caylie Wilkinson, and Taylor Wilkinson**; and freshmen **Viviana Didomenico, Gemma Levy, and Ava Stackhouse**. The team was undefeated in the section with a record of 10-0, and the overall record was 19-4-1. Additionally, the team qualified for the PIAA playoffs.

•The Fox Chapel Area High School girls varsity golf team won the WPIAL Class 3A Section 4 title for the seventh consecutive year and also qualified for the PIAA championships. The team members were seniors **Baustin Bitar, Gabrielle DeVita, and Riley Francis-Perka**; juniors **Ava Calandra, Molly Classen, Morgan Monteverde, and Madison Rothert**; sophomores **Abigail Freyvogel and Clara Koteski**; and freshmen **London Bitar and Brooke Leone**. The team's section record was 11-1 and the overall record was 17-3. The PIAA team championships were held October 23, 2024, at the Penn State Golf Courses.

Additionally, Clara won the WPIAL Class 3A Section 4 individual golf title for the second consecutive year on September 17 at the Murrysville Golf Club.

FOX LEADERSHIP COUNCIL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Fox Leadership Council president and telethon coordinator, Annie Mohn, gave a report on the district's annual telethon.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

• **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 Technology Student Association (TSA) at the high school.

The association has a very active chapter at Fox Chapel Area High School, and it allows students to gain valuable leadership opportunities in a wide range of STEM subjects. High school technology education teacher and TSA sponsor, Joe Gass, introduced students who shared their experiences.

• **High School Students Place at M&M Lake Erie Speech & Debate Tournament**

Five Fox Chapel Area High School students placed at the annual M&M Lake Erie Invitational Speech and Debate Tournament. The team of juniors **Joanna Li** and **Zachary Rubin** won first place in Policy Debate. Senior **Swati Mylarappa** and freshman **Ottillie Happold** were each named Merit Speakers (equivalent to third place) in Student Congress. Senior **Emanuel DiNatale** won sixth place in Impromptu Speaking.

The tournament, sponsored by Mercyhurst Preparatory School and McDowell High School, was held November 9, 2024, on the campus of Penn State Behrend in Erie, Pennsylvania. A total of 138 students from 8 public and private high schools from Western Pennsylvania participated in the event.

• **High School Student Places at Gettysburg Model UN Conference**

A Fox Chapel Area High School student recently won an award at the inaugural Gettysburg College Model United Nations (UN) Conference. Junior **Ulyana Kubini** received an Honorable Mention (equivalent to fourth place).

Approximately 110 students representing eight public and private high schools from across Pennsylvania competed at the Gettysburg College Model UN Conference held October 11-13, 2024, at Gettysburg College.

The purpose of the Model UN conferences is to enable students to role-play and simulate the countries in the United Nations. As a part of the conferences, students debate and try to solve global problems from the perspectives of other countries.

• **DMS Field Hockey Team Undefeated**

The Dorseyville Middle School girls field hockey team was undefeated this season with a record of 10-0-3. The team members were eighth-graders **Mary Adams, Bettis Bierenbaum, Lilyann Freyvogel, Mary Johnson, Lucy Koteski, Paige Maheshwary, Olivia Napolitan, McKayla O'Leary, Tatum Patrick, Lily Ruthrauff, Pyper Shurina, Margaux Theoret, Elsa Watters, and Elisabeth Wissner**; and seventh-graders **Gemma Agens, Layne Bierenbaum, Catherine Carlson, Roasrio Echeverria Conte, Maya Kingsley, Liza Maheshwary, Reese McCaffrey, Nora McLeland, Ella Mohn, Gillian Pekarcik, and Laila Tobe**. The team also had three sixth-grade managers: **Linley Frank, Isabella Hofmann, and Molly Patrick**.

• **DMS Girls Cross Country Team Has Undefeated Season**

The Dorseyville Middle School girls cross country team was undefeated this season with a record of 10-0. The team members were eighth-graders **Stella Avondolio, Camrhyn Banachoski, Hazel Clifford, Maelie Conti, Kaitlyn DiNatale, Malak Eldib, Wilhelmina Grashow, Fiona Gregory, Reagan Hager, Carson Hemingray, Vivian Hubbard, Sydney Kimmons, Kaeli Kobylinski, Susanna Leland, Scout Loht, Clair Loludice, Ella Roth, Lauren Schmutz, Anna Schroeder, Maeve Sherry, Sofia Squeglia, Phoebe Van Gehuchten, Maya Vyas, and Brooklyn Wan**; and seventh-graders **Olivia Bonaroti, Opal Bruce, Margaret Davis, Emily Dean, Delaney Frank, Addison Funk, Ava Golomb, Binh Luu, Soleil Muller, Alice Smith, Lily Snyder, and Naomi Thorne**. Additionally, the team won all three invitationals in which it participated.

• **Boys Soccer Player Named to All-State Team**

Fox Chapel Area High School senior **Milo Chiu** was named to the Western Pennsylvania Soccer Coaches Association (WPSCA) All-State team. The members of the team were selected by the coaches.

• **Boys Senior Soccer Players Named to All-WPIAL Team**

Four Fox Chapel Area High School varsity boys soccer players, seniors **Kellen Bleier**, **Milo Chiu**, **Carson Krushansky**, and **Aidan Stein** were named to the All-WPIAL team. The team members were selected by the WPIAL coaches.

• **Boys Soccer Players Named to All-Section Teams**

Five members of the Fox Chapel Area High School boys soccer team were named to the WPIAL Class 4A Section 3 team. They are seniors **Kellen Bleier**, **Milo Chiu**, **Carson Krushansky**, and **Aidan Stein**; and junior **Brady Matthews**.

• **Boys Soccer Players Named to Big 56 Teams**

Five members of the Fox Chapel Area High School boys soccer team were named to Big 56 all-section teams, and one was named the player of the year. Senior **Milo Chiu** was named to the WPIAL Class 4A Section 3 first team, as well as being selected as the section player of the year. Other WPIAL Class 4A Section 3 first-team selections were senior **Aidan Stein** and junior **Brady Matthews**. Senior **Kellan Bleier** and junior **Rocco Didomenico** were named to the second team.

• **Boys Soccer Players Chosen for All-Star Game**

Four members of the Fox Chapel Area High School boys varsity soccer team were selected to play in a 2024 Western Pennsylvania Soccer Coaches Association all-star game. Seniors **Kellan Bleier**, **Milo Chiu**, **Carson Krushansky**, and **Aidan Stein** were chosen to play in the WPIAL Class 4A game. Additionally, boys head soccer coach **Erik Ingram** was chosen to coach the game. The contest was held November 30, 2024, at Pine-Richland High School, and the players from WPIAL Class 4A played the WPIAL Class 3A team.

• **Girls Soccer Player Named to All-State Team**

Fox Chapel Area High School sophomore **Emily McKee** was named to the PIAA All-State Girls Soccer Team. The team members are selected by the members of the Pennsylvania Soccer Coaches Association.

• **Girls Soccer Players Named to All-WPIAL Team**

Two Fox Chapel Area High School varsity girls soccer players, senior **Alyssa Quackenbush** and sophomore **Emily McKee**, were named to the All-WPIAL team. The team members were selected by the WPIAL coaches.

• **Girls Soccer Players Named to All-Section Teams**

Six Fox Chapel Area High School girls soccer players were named to the WPIAL Class 3A Section 1 team. They are seniors **Maya DiPasquale**, **Madeline Grimsley**, and **Alyssa Quackenbush**; junior **Cassie Classen**; and sophomores **Emily McKee** and **Cailey Wilkinson**.

• **Field Hockey Players Named All-WPIAL**

Two members of the Fox Chapel Area High School field hockey team were named to the All-WPIAL team, senior **Regina Fitzsimmons** and junior **Emma Srodes**. The team members were selected by the WPIAL Field Hockey Coaches Association.

• **Field Hockey Players Named to Class 2A All-Star Team**

Four members of the Fox Chapel Area High School field hockey team were named to the Class 2A all-star team. Senior **Regina Fitzsimmons**, juniors **Kathryn Siddons** and **Emma Srodes**, and sophomore **Melanie Pietz** were all named to the team.

• **Girls Volleyball Players Named to Big 56 Teams**

Five members of the Fox Chapel Area High girls volleyball team were named to Big 56 all-section teams. Junior **Emma DiRocco** was named to the WPIAL Class 4A Section 4 first team. Seniors **Claire Feczko** and **Vanessa Perez Milano** were named to the second team, and seniors **Adelyn Bursick** and **Brooke Fenton** received honorable mentions to the team.

• **Football Players Named to Big 56 All-Conference Teams**

Four Fox Chapel Area High School football players were named to Big 56 Class 5A all-conference teams. Senior **Kristopher Bandurski** (tackle) and junior **Harran Zureikat** (kicker) were named to the Northeast Conference first team offense. Senior **Cooper Hendren** (at-large) and junior **Thomas Billings** (tight end) were named to the Northeast Conference second team offense.

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 November 11, 2024. On motion by Ms. Findley 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

On motion by Mrs. Lynch and seconded by Ms. Findley, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Facilities/Transportation item:

1. Additional School Bus Drivers – 2024-2025 School Year

Ratify hiring the additional ABC Transit, Inc., drivers effective for the 2024-2025 school year. All required licensing, clearances, and all other essential employment requirements for school bus operators under the laws of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania have been verified.

FINANCE

B. Finance

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

1. Finance Report – October 2024

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

2. Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program – Resolution 2024-4

Approve Resolution 2024-4 authorizing the participation of the Fox Chapel Area School District in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program through the 2025-2026 school year, and authorizing the appointment of Kimberly Pawlishak and Daniel Breitreutz as representatives of the district. **This is a renewal of participation.**

3. AMCA Systems, LLC – ACA (Affordable Care Act) TaxTrack Software Agreement

Approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and AMCA Systems, LLC for ACA TaxTrack Software effective December 3, 2024, at a cost of \$3,050. **This is a renewal of services.**

INSTRUCTION

C. Instruction

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

1. Textbook for Approval (Updated Copyright)

a. Fox Chapel Area High School

Approve the following updated copyright of a current textbook, effective for the second semester of the 2024-2025 school year:

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

2. January 2025 Graduate

The following student is eligible for midyear graduation, subject to final approval by the high school lead principal:

Bekhruz Mumindzhanov

3. River Academy of Excellence – Student Education Agreement

Approve the student education agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and River Academy of Excellence to provide services to an unnamed student for the 2024-2025 school year. **This is a renewal of services.**

**4. Allegheny Intermediate Unit – Memorandums of Understanding
TransPerfect Remote Interpreting**

a. TransPerfect AI Portal Translation

Approve the memorandum of understanding regarding TransPerfect AI portal translation between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit to provide access to written translation through an AI portal to support non-English speaking parents and families effective for the 2025-2026 school year at a cost of \$500.

This is a renewal of services.

b. Telephone Interpretation Services

Approve the memorandum of understanding regarding telephone interpretation services between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit to provide telephone voice interpretation for non-English speaking parents and families effective for the 2025-2026 school year at a cost of \$120 plus additional costs for other services as needed. **This is a renewal of services.**

5. Settlement

Approve settlement of claim by parents of student as presented.

LEGISLATION/POLICY

D. Legislation/Policy

Mr. Frank made a motion to approve Legislation/Policy items 1 and 2. Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion. There was a discussion.

Mr. Frank amended his original motion to approve Legislation/Policy items 1 and 2, excluding Policy No. 113.2 referring it back to the governance committee. Mrs. Cooper seconded the motion. There was a discussion. It was unanimously resolved to approve Legislation/Policy items 1 and 2, excluding Policy No. 113.2 that is being referred back to the governance committee.

1. Policies – Revised – Second Reading and Adoption

Approve the second reading and adoption 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

2. Policies – Revised – First Reading

Approve the first reading of the following revised policies:

- No. 113.1 – Discipline of Students with Disabilities

- No. 113.2 – Behavior Support
- No. 202 – Eligibility of Nonresident Students
- No. 227 – Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
- No. 236.1 – Threat Assessment
- No. 254 – Educational Opportunity for Military Children
- No. 701 – Facilities Planning
- No. 703 – Sanitary Management
- No. 704 – Maintenance
- No. 805.2 – School Security Personnel
- No. 903 – Public Comment in Board Meetings

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 Ms. Findley, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Personnel items:

1. Resignations

a. Educational Support

- (1) The resignation of Trinity R. Washington, personal care assistant at Dorseyville Middle School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective November 19, 2024.

b. Custodial/Maintenance

- (1) The resignation of Jon E. Parrish, 12-month, 8 hours per day maintenance employee for the Fox Chapel Area School District, due to retirement, is accepted effective January 6, 2025.

c. Supplemental Contracts – Athletic

- (1) The resignation of Todd Hillman, swimming, HS diving head, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective November 15, 2024.
- (2) The resignation of Lawrence Kamenicky, baseball, MS asst., due to personal reasons, is accepted effective November 25, 2024.

2. Appointments

a. Custodial/Maintenance

- (1) Brian E. Gantner is approved as a 10-month, 8 hours per day custodian at O'Hara Elementary School for a probationary period, effective December 4, 2024, pursuant to the Service Employees International Union Local 32BJ Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The salary and fringe benefits are set as per the CBA. This position is available due to the resignation of Justin Ober.
- (2) Chasity K. Leas is approved as a 10-month, 8 hours per day custodian at Dorseyville Middle School for a probationary period, effective December 4, 2024, pursuant to the Service Employees International Union Local 32BJ Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The salary and fringe benefits are set as per the CBA. This position is available due to the resignation of Mark Pisano.

b. Supplemental Contract – Athletic

- (1) The following athletic supplemental contract is ratified effective November 15, 2024:

Vernon Yenick Swimming, HS Diving Head \$3,722

c. Supplemental Contract – Non-Athletic

- (1) The following non-athletic supplemental contract is ratified effective for the 2024-2025 school year:

Stanley Strzempek Jr. Student Govt – Kerr Sponsor (33.3%) \$358.65

3. Volunteer – Athletic

- a. The following athletic volunteer is approved, effective December 4, 2024:

Matthew Harris Swimming

4. Corrections

a. Supplemental Contracts – Athletic

- (1) The following athletic supplemental contract was previously ratified/approved in error, effective for the 2024-2025 school year:

Anthony Griggs Interscholastic Strength/Conditioning 1st Asst. (F 25%)

- (2) John Alerich, previously approved as interscholastic strength/conditioning 1st asst. (S/W/SP 75%) at a salary of \$8,598, is ratified as interscholastic strength/conditioning 1st asst. (S/F/W/SP 100%) at a salary of \$11,464 for the 2024-2025 school year.

b. Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic

- (1) Amy Jakubek, previously approved as Student Govt – Kerr Sponsor (50%) at a salary of \$538.50, is ratified as Student Govt – Kerr Sponsor (33.3%) at a salary of \$358.65 for the 2024-2025 school year.
- (2) Stacey Trpcic, previously approved as Student Govt – Kerr Sponsor (50%) at a salary of \$538.50, is ratified as Student Govt – Kerr Sponsor (33.3%) at a salary of \$358.65 for the 2024-2025 school year.

OPERATIONS/COOPERATIVE SERVICES

F. Operations/Cooperative Services

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

1. Fox Chapel Area School Authority – Reappointments

Approve the reappointments of Richard Ranii and Robert Saunders to the Fox Chapel Area School Authority effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2029. **These reappointments are recommended by the district superintendent after consultation with the Fox Chapel Area School Authority.**

2. Authorization to Advertise for Bids – High School Panel Feeder Replacement Project

Authorize the advertisement of bids for the high school panel feeder replacement project.

3. Authorization to Advertise for Bids – High School Building Column Settlement Project

Authorize the advertisement of bids for the high school building column settlement project.

4. Donations – Dorseyville Middle School Musical Fund

Accept the anonymous donations of \$150 and \$300 for the Dorseyville Middle School musical fund.

SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

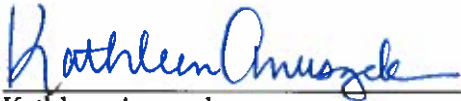
There was no report.

BOARD COMMENTS

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

ADIOURNMENT

It was unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m.



Kathleen Anuszek
Board Secretary