MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MARCH 12, 2025

The regular meeting of the Freeport Area School District Board of School Directors scheduled for 7:00 pm in the Auditorium of the Freeport Area High School, 625 South Pike Road, Sarver, Pennsylvania, was called to order by Mr. Gary Risch, Jr., Board President, at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call:

Ms. Davies	Present
Mr. DiGiacobbe	Present
Mr. Haven	Present
Mr. Huth	Present
Ms. Maxwell	Present
Mr. Risch	Present
Mr. Ritter	Present
Mr. Selinger	Absent
Ms. Zembrzuski	Absent

Student School board members:

Sylvia A. Crytzer	Absent
Lucia A. Danka	Absent
Dawson J. Gaillot	Present
Himani Harrell	Present
Aven J. Heavner	Present
Mario P. Lesko	Absent
Peyton A. Los	Absent
Emma G. Michelini	Absent

Administrators present were Mr. Robb, Program Director; and Mr. Walker, Director of Finance and Operations. Also participating was District solicitor Mr. Matthew Hoffman.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Risch welcomed members of the public and asked for comments on any agenda item. No public comments on any agenda items were offered.

Reports

1. It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Mr. Huth, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on February 5, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

2. It was moved by Mr. Huth, and seconded by Mr. Haven, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 12, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

3. The Board Secretary reported that the Board met as follows since the last report to the Board at the Regular Meeting on February 12, 2025: The Building Committee held a public meeting on March 5, 2025. The Board met in Executive Session on March 5, 2025, to discuss Safety and Security, Personnel, and Contracts and Negotiations Matters. The Board held a Committee Meeting on March 5, 2025. The Board met in Executive Session on March 12, 2025, to discuss Personnel and Contracts and Negotiations Matters.

4. At the Board's committee meeting on March 5, 2025, Kim Turnley of Turnley, Robertson & Associates, LLC, presented a June 30, 2024 Year-End Audit Review.

5. Kelly Valmassoni, of Nutrition Inc., presented a mid-year school nutrition program review and budgetary outlook.

6. Mr. Walker provided a 2025-2026 school year budget update.

7. Mr. Risch thanked the members of the Building Committee for their work on the High School Project. Mr. Risch announced that the Board would hold open discussions about the High School Project at its meetings on April 2, 2025, April 9, 2025, and May 7, 2025. Mr. Risch announced that he intended for the Board to hold a vote at its regular meeting on May 14, 2025, on how to move forward with the Project.

8. Mr. DiGiacobbe reported that the Armstrong Indiana (ARIN) Intermediate Unit had selected a new executive director, Dr. Matthew Curci.

9. Ms. Maxwell reported that Lenape Technical School's Joint Operating Committee would meet the following week.

10. The Student School Board Members presented their reports on student activities and events.

<u>Personnel</u>

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Mr. Huth,

a. To accept the resignation of Maureen A. Schraven, Educational Assistant, effective February 21, 2025.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Ms. Maxwell, and seconded by Mr. Haven,

b. To accept the resignation of Kimberly L. Smith, part-time Cafeteria Worker, effective March 5, 2025.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. Huth, and seconded by Mr. DiGiacobbe,

c. To approve the request of Employee No. 4088 for Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave.

d. To approve the request of Employee No. 4168 for Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave.

e. To approve the request of Employee No. 3043 for Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave.

f. To approve rescinding the termination of employment of Employee No. 4270 effective January 15, 2025.

g. To approve the attached Memorandum of Agreement with Freeport Education Support Personnel Association regarding Employee No. 4270.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. DiGiacobbe, and seconded by Mr. Haven,

h. To approve the employment of the paid and volunteer individuals listed on the attachment for the District's 2024-2025 Athletics Programs, with salaries in accordance with contracted terms of remuneration approved by the Board and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.

i. To approve the employment of the paid and volunteer individuals listed on the attachment for the District's 2025-2026 Athletics Programs, with salaries in accordance with contracted terms of remuneration approved by the Board and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.

j. To approve the employment of the paid and volunteer individuals listed on the attachment for the District's 2025-2026 Extracurricular Programs, with salaries in accordance with contracted terms of remuneration approved by the Board and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Motion carried unanimously.

<u>Curriculum and Technology</u>

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Ms. Maxwell,

a. To approve the attached District Comprehensive Plan 2024 - 2027 and its submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

b. To approve the attached Addendum to the College in High School Dual Credit Agreement with Seton Hill University dated April 10, 2024, modifying the terms of the Agreement for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Athletics and Activities

It was moved by Ms. Maxwell, and seconded by Mr. Haven,

a. To approve a High School student field trip described on the attachment, to participate in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) Region II Chorus Festival in Erie, Pennsylvania, from March 20 22, 2025, at a cost to the District of $433.64 plus the cost of one (1) substitute teacher for two (2) days.

b. To approve a Middle School and High School student field trip described on the attachment, to Gatlinburg, Tennessee, from April 23 26, 2025, at no cost to the District other than the cost of two (2) substitute teachers for three (3) days.

c. To approve the requests to use the athletic fields under ownership of the Freeport Area School District as provided in District Policy and according to the schedule developed by the Athletic Director for the 2025 spring/summer season as described on the attachment.

Motion carried unanimously.

Policy

It was moved by Mr. Huth, and seconded by Mr. DiGiacobbe,

a. To approve the adoption of revised School Board Policy No. 103 (Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Students).

b. To approve the adoption of revised School Board Policy No. 104 (Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Staff).

c. To approve the adoption of revised School Board Policy No. 234 (Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students).

d. To approve the adoption of revised School Board Policy No. 247 (Hazing).

e. Action on approving revised School Board Policy No. 249 (Bullying/Cyberbullying).

f. To approve the adoption of revised School Board Policy No. 252 (Dating Violence).

g. To approve the adoption of revised School Board Policy No. 339 (Uncompensated Leave).

Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Ms. Davies,

a. To approve a student lunch price of $2.85 for secondary students and $2.75 for elementary students and the student breakfast price of $1.35, for the 2025-2026 school year.

b. To approve the attached Food Service Management Company Renewal Year Cost Reimbursable Contract for the 2025-2026 school year.

c. To approve the attached Resolution Authorizing the Retention of Counsel for Litigation Against Eli Lilly, et al., and approving the attached Attorney-Client Fee Contract with the Frantz Law Group, APLC, for legal services to be provided in connection with that Litigation for a fee of 30% of any monetary settlement or recovery obtained for the District.

d. To approve the attached Resolution Denouncing the Misuse of Taxpayer Funds in Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School Funding and Urging Legislative Reform.

e. To approve the election of Dino A. DiGiacobbe to serve as the District's Armstrong Indiana (ARIN) Intermediate Unit Board representative, for a three (3) year term expiring June 30, 2028.

f. To approve the attached Agreement with Armstrong Indiana (ARIN) Intermediate Unit 28 regarding allocation of federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) funds for the 2024-2025 school year.

g. To approve the adoption of Armstrong Indiana (ARIN) Intermediate Unit's 2025-2026 Policies, Procedures, and Use of Funds by School District, as provided on the attachment.

h. To approve the attached proposal from Singer Equipment Company for the purchase and delivery of a planetary mixer for the Buffalo Elementary School cafeteria, at a cost of $6,045.78 to be paid from the Cafeteria Fund balance.

i. To approve the attached proposal from Great Lakes Hotel Supply Co. for the purchase and delivery of smallware for the school cafeterias, at a cost of $3,856.39 to be paid from the Cafeteria Fund balance.

j. To approve the attached proposal and Master Services Agreement with Frontline Technologies Group LLC dba Frontline Education for renewal of a subscription to its Forecast5 Comparative Analytics solution, for a three (3) year term and at a total cost of $13,595.50.

k. To approve the attached proposal and Master Services Agreement with Frontline Technologies Group LLC dba Frontline Education for renewal of a subscription to its Electronic Health Records & Nursing Management solution, for a three (3) year term and at a total cost of $11,332.62.

l. To approve the attached proposal and Master Services Agreement with Frontline Technologies Group LLC dba Frontline Education for renewal of a subscription to its Absence Management solution, for a three (3) year term and at a total cost of $34,703.17.

m. To approve the attached proposal from Open Systems Pittsburgh, LLC, for purchase and installation of public address system equipment at the Freeport Area High School at a total cost of $138,500 to be paid from the Capital Reserve account.

n. To accept a $700 grant from the National Park Trust's Kids to Parks Day Program for South Buffalo Elementary School.

o. To accept the donation of $1500 from Concordia Lutheran Ministries to be deposited into the Buffalo Elementary School Playground Renovations account.

p. To accept the donation of $100 from the Oak Hills Garden Club to be used for the Buffalo Elementary School Courtyard Renovations Project.

q. To accept the donation of $800 from Matt Achilles to be applied to negative student cafeteria balances at Buffalo Elementary School.

r. To accept the donation of $100 from ACMH Hospital, to be used for the District's 2025 Autism Conference.

s. To accept a $1000 grant from the Armstrong Indiana (ARIN) Intermediate Unit for the District's student Chief Science Officer (CSO) Program.

t. To approve a revised 2025-2026 District calendar as provided on the attachment.

Motion carried unanimously.

Finance

Mr. Walker provided an overview of the attached Finance Report.

It was moved by Mr. Huth, and seconded by Mr. Haven,

a. To approve the attached February 2025 financial reports.

b. To approve the February 2025 payments listed on the attachments.

c. To approve the attached list of budgetary transfers.

d. To approve the awarding of bids for maintenance supplies to various suppliers in the amount of $56,374.98 as provided on the attachment.

e. **TO TAKE NO ACTION** *To approve the exoneration of interest in the amount of $8,888.55 accrued to date on delinquent school district real estate taxes on tax map parcel 040-S13-A119-0000, owned by Buffalo Township, as per reference to the attached document, in consideration of the prompt payment of the real estate taxes and costs.*

f. To accept the District's Financial Statements and Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 2024, in substantially the form attached.

Motion carried unanimously (including motion ***to take no action on Finance item 8.e.***).

Next Meetings

Mr. Risch announced that the Board would hold a Committee Meeting on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, and a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at 7:00 pm, in the High School Audion.

Concerns or Comments from Board Members

Mr. Haven announced that the Budget Committee would hold a meeting in the upcoming weeks, with the date to be determined.

Ms. Davies indicated that building air quality is an important topic in regard to the High School Project.

Concerns or Comments from the Public

Phillip Tompkins of South Buffalo Township commented on the District budget. Stephen Relkhars of Buffalo Township and Steve Timko of Buffalo Township each commented on the High School Project.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Ms. Davies, and seconded by Mr. Haven, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Risch declared the meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

/s/ Gary L. Risch, Jr.	/s/ Mary Dobransky
Board President	Board Secretary