MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 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 7:06 p.m.

Roll call:

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

Student School Board Members:

Mylie Atkinson	Present
Lainey Blattenberger	Present
Lucia Danka	Absent
Cathryn Deacon	Present
Dawson Gaillot	Absent
Himani Harrell	Present
Mario Lesko	Present
Peyton Los	Absent
Natalie Wallisch	Present

Administrators present were Mr. Magness, Superintendent; 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 items. No public comments on any agenda items were offered.

Reports

1. It was moved by Mr. Selinger, and seconded by Mr. Haven, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on August 6, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

2. It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Mr. Selinger, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 13, 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 August 13, 2025: The Board met in Executive Session on September 3, 2025, to discuss Personnel, and Contracts and Negotiations, and Confidential Student Matters. The Board held a Special Meeting for general business purposes on September 3, 2025. The Board held a Committee Meeting on September 3, 2025. The Board met in Executive Session on September 10, 2025, to discuss Safety and Security, Personnel, and Confidential Student Matters.

4. Kelly Valmassoni and Cassandra Mielke of The Nutrition Group presented their attached report on the District's school nutrition program.

5. Mr. Magness highlighted for the Board a recent U.S. News Best High School's Rankings report on which the Freeport Area High School was listed 12th of Pittsburgh Metro area high schools. He commended the High School faculty, staff, students, and parents and asked that the community share in the sense of pride the entire District has in this achievement.

6. Mr. Walker provided an update on the Freeport Area High School Renovations Project and a bond rating update.

7. Mr. Selinger reported that the Lenape Technical School Joint Operating Committee would meet the following week. He noted that the Committee had approved some replacement hiring at the Committee's August meeting.

8. Mr. Selinger reported for the Athletics Committee that Athletics Office and High School Office staff met with all of the Student Athlete Advisory Council members on September 9 and again the district's students/athletes will participate in the WPIAL food drive challenge to support the local community food bank. Food donations will be collected from September 22nd through October 1st in the High School vestibule from 8 am to 2 pm.

9. Mr. Haven reported that his legislative report was on hold pending movement on the Pennsylvania state budget.

10. The student school board members present gave their report to the Board on student activities.

<u>Personnel</u>

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

a. To approve the employment of Madison D. Franceschi as a Long Term Substitute Teacher, at an annual salary of $47,000, prorated for days worked, effective September 11, 2025, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

b. To approve the employment of Mary E. Boice as an Educational Assistant for the 2025 2026 school year, at an hourly wage rate of $13.00, effective September 11, 2025, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Ms. Maxwell, and seconded by Ms. Zembrzuski,

c. To approve the employment of the individuals listed on the attachment as Professional Learning Mentors and New-teacher Mentors for the 2025-2026 school year, with salaries in accordance with contracted terms of remuneration approved by the Board.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

d. To grant professional status to Danika J. Durand and Kelsey M. Smith, who have each met the requirements for tenure as outlined in the Pennsylvania School Code.

Motion carried unanimously.

Curriculum and Technology

It was moved by Mr. Selinger, and seconded by Ms. Zembrzuski,

a. To accept the attached proposal from Lexia Learning Systems LLC for one additional student license for a one-year subscription to Lexia's Core5 Reading/PowerUp Literacy and English Student, at a cost of $302.

b. To accept the attached Marcia Brenner Associates quote for a one-year subscription to its Report Creator Plugin for PowerSchool at a cost of $1,062.06.

Motion carried unanimously.

Athletics and Activities

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

a. To approve a change to the date and location of the Buffalo Elementary School 2026 musical, to January 22-24, 2026, at the Freeport Area Middle School.

b. To approve the request of the School & Student Events Coordinator to establish an independent high school gymnastics club with permission to use the high school name and school logo, with no other costs or liabilities regarding the club program associated with the District or the District's Athletics department.

c. To approve the attached agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for student participation in the Adopt-a-Highway Program during the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years, at no cost to the District.

d. To grant pre-approval for the High School Softball team's trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, from March 30, 2026, to April 2, 2026.

Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

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

a. To cast the District's vote for the following candidates for 2026 Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) Officers: Holly Arnold, for a one-year term as President; Matt Vannoy, for a one-year term as Vice President; and Kathy K. Swope and Roberta M. Marcus, each for a three-year term as a PSBA Insurance Trustee.

b. To approve the participation of a resident student in The Watson Institute/Friendship Academy's extended school year program, in accordance with the student's IEP, from June 18 through July 17, 2025, at a cost of $3,700 (previously approved at a cost not to exceed $3,570).

c. To approve the attached agreements with The Watson Institute for education services to be provided to three (3) resident students during the 2025-2026 school year, in accordance with the students' IEPs, at a total cost of $199,023.

d. To approve the enrollment of two resident students as 4010-funded students at The Watson Institute Friendship Academy during the 2025-2026 school year, in accordance with the students' IEPs, at a cost to the District of $56,651 (40% of WIFA's $141,627 annual tuition), to be paid from the District's Pennsylvania state subsidy.

e. To accept the attached proposal from Combustion Service & Equipment Co., for boiler systems maintenance services to be provided from September 1, 2025, through August 31, 2026, at a cost of $7,250.

f. To accept the attached proposal from Tobey Karg Service Agency, Inc., for High School and elementary school chiller and cooling unit preventative

maintenance services to be provided during the 2025-2026 school year, at a cost of $7,675.

g. To accept the attached proposal from Tobey Karg Service Agency, Inc., for Middle School chiller preventative maintenance services to be provided during the 2025-2026 school year, at a cost of $2,360.

h. To accept the attached proposal from Tobey-Karg Service Agency, Inc., for replacement of two chilled-water coils for the Buffalo Elementary School air handling unit (AHU), at a cost of $23,490 to be paid from the District's capital reserve.

i. To accept a Highmark Foundation Grant in the amount of $4,350 to support the Middle School's Grade 7/8 Physical Education Program.

j. To accept a $2,000 donation from the Dylan Tarbi Foundation to the Freeport Area Middle School and High School student activities accounts.

k. To approve a Stipulated Adjudication with regard to Student A.

Motion carried unanimously.

Finance

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

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

a. To approve the attached August 2025 financial reports.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meetings

Mr. Risch announced that the Board would hold a Committee Meeting on Wednesday, October 1, at 7:00 pm, and a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, at 7:00 pm, in the High School Audion.

Comments from Board Members

Mr. DiGiacobbe noted that he is very proud of the High School's ranking on the U.S. News report and thanked the High School's teachers and administration and students.

Comments from Visitors

Student school board member Himani Harrell expressed her gratitude to the Board for its decision to move forward with the High School renovations project. Student school board

member Mario Lesko thanked the Board for listening to the District students' concerns regarding the High School building.

Mark Wyant of Buffalo Township thanked the student school board members for their service to the Board and to the District. Mr. Risch thanked Ms. Maxwell and Ms. Zembrzuski for their involvement with and support of the student school board members program.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Selinger, and seconded by Mr. DiGiacobbe, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Risch declared the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

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