FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Meeting Minutes
Board Room
January 22, 2025

The January 22, 2025 Board Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board was held in the Board Room of the Ferndale Area School District, 100 Dartmouth Avenue, Johnstown. The Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Boyle at 6:01 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Moment of Contemplation

Notice is given that the Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board to be conducted in this room will be tape recorded and entry constitutes consent to the taping of any individual who comments.

Policy No. 903 Public Participation in Board Meetings is posted on Ferndale Area School District website.

IV. Roll Call: Present: Susan Boyle, Barry Himes, Kimberly Kinsey, James McKendree, Richard Pavic, Stephen Thompson, Patricia Wilson. Absent: Jason Moschgat, John Rutledge.

Others in attendance were Jeffrey Boyer, William Brotz, David Gates, Administrators; Lynn Bennett, FAEA/Resident; Rena Watson, Wes Watson, Parents; Romayne Baldwin, Kimberly Pavic, Residents; Susan Sheesley, PSEA Retired; Joshua Byer, Tribune Democrat; Patricia Craig, Recording Secretary.

V. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

Lynn Bennett, FAEA, asked about Item E-31-01/25, the cost of a Special Education Consultant.

VI. Committees Agenda

IF-17-01/25 An Audit Presentation by Kotzan CPA was held at the January 15, 2025 Board Workshop.

The Board went int an Executive Session at 6:03 p.m. for personnel and student activities. The Executive Session ended at 6:26 p.m.

1. Board

IBD-09-01/25 Student Board Representative Report.

IBD-10-01/25 January is School Director Recognition Month. (Jeffrey Boyer)

Mr. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Himes, to approve BD-37-01/25 through BD-39-01/25.

BD-37-01/25 Approve the January 22, 2025 Board Meeting Consent Agenda (BD-38-01/25 through W-52-01/25)

BD-38-01/25 Approve the Minutes of the December 4, 2024 Board Meeting, as presented.

IE-21-01/25 Several students will have the opportunity to participate in the PAS class at Penn Highlands. This is a collaboration between the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and Penn Highlands Community College. Students must complete an application process through OVR and be eligible for the course. The class starts February 25, 2025 and runs until April 22, 2025, from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. The District will provide transportation for the students.

F-22-01/25 Approve the November and December Treasurer's Reports.

F-23-01/25 Approve the General Fund and Cafeteria Bills, as presented.

IF-16-01/25 Receipts and disbursements.

IF-17-01/25 Received a letter from Clayton Carroll, PDE, approving Ferndale Area School District's Single Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 2023 as being substantially in compliance with 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F regulations and other relevant federal and Commonwealth policy.

P-39-01/25 Approve the following Support Staff Substitutes, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork:

- Melissa Deyarmin, Johnstown
- *Memoree McGough, Johnstown

ST-45-01/25 Approve the Interact Club (6 students) participation at Sunnehanna Country Club - Rotary Luncheon on December 11, 2024. Cost: Substitute: $100.00. (District)

ST-46-01/25 Approve the Interact Club (6 students) participation at St. Vincent's Soup Kitchen on December 13, 2024. Cost: Substitute: $100.00. (District).

ST-47-01/25 Approve the Forensics Teams (7 students) participation in Forensics meet at Penn Cambria High School on January 9, 2025. Cost: Transportation: $450.00. (District)

ST-48-01/25 Approve the Marching Band (35 students) Spring Trip to Cleveland, OH on March 20-21, 2025. Cost per student: $250.00. (Band Boosters and Student Fundraising) Substitute for two days: $200.00. (District)

ST-49-01/25 Approve the Sixth Grade Band Members (3 students) participation in BandFest at Conemaugh Township School District on April 3, 205. Cost: Registration $90.00. Transportation: $200.000. Substitute: $100.00. Total Cost: $390.00 (District)

ST-50-01/25 Approve the Second Grade (39 students) field trip to Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center on April 10, 2024. Cost: Tickets: $384.00. Transportation: $230.00. Total cost: $614.00. (District)

ST-51-01/25 Approve the Second Grade (39 students) field trip to Camp Sequanota on May 15, 2025. Cost: Camp cost: $504.00. Transportation: $350.00. Nurse: $150.00. Total Cost: $1,004.00. (District)

ST-52-01/25 Approve five students participation in the Forensics Competition at Bishop Carroll High School on January 23, 2025. Cost: Transportation: $400.00. (District)

Approve the following workshops/conferences:

W-40-01/25 Alisha Black, Kindergarten Teacher; Averie Gnagey, First Grade Teacher; *ECRI - Comprehension and Vocabulary Workshop*, January 29, 2025. Cost: Meals for each: $15.00. Mileage: $83.08. Substitute for two: $200.00. Total Cost: $313.08. (District)

W-41-01/25 Molly Steiner, Guidance Counselor; *Youth Mental Health Conference*, February 7, 2025, Pittsburgh. Cost: Registration: $65.00. Meals: $25.00. Mileage: $70.06. Total Cost: $160.06. (District)

W-42-01/25 Jessica Cunningham, Christine Eash, Elementary Teachers; Cost: Meals: $60.00 each. Mileage: $373.99. Substitute for two for four days: $800.00. Total Cost: $1,233.99. (District)

-- *3-Dimensional Science Assessments*, February 19, 2025, IU8 Altoona
-- *STEELS Network,* February 26, 2025, IU8 Altoona
-- *STEELS K-6,* March 25, 2025, IU8 Richland
-- *Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience,* May 7, 2025, Canoe Creek, Hollidaysburg

W-43-01/25 Sutton Barron, Director of Special Education; *PDE Making a Difference: Educational Practices That Work!*, February 5-7, 2025, Hershey. Cost: Registration: $295.00. Lodging: $512.82. Meals: $162.00. Mileage and Tolls: $233.10. Total Cost: $1,202.92. (District)

W-44-01/25 Christine Eash, 5th Grade Teacher; *Concrete-Representational-Abstract Workshop*, February 21, 2025, March 12, 2025, IU8 Altoona. Cost: Meals: $30.00. Mileage: $112.56. Substitute for two days: $300.00. Total Cost: $342.56. (District)

W-45-01/25 Maeve Hrabosky, MTSS; Stephanie Mino, Math Specialist; *Concrete-Representational-Abstract Workshop*, February 12, 2025, February 21, 2025, March 12, 2025, IU8 Altoona. Cost: Meals for each: $45.00. Mileage: $370.44. Total Cost: $460.44 (District)

W-46-01/25 Jessica Cunningham; 6th Grade Teacher; *Concrete-Representational-Abstract Workshop*, March 12, 2025, IU8 Altoona. Cost: Meals: $15.00. Mileage: $54.95. Substitute: $100.00. Total Cost: $169.94. (District)

W-47-01/25 Judith Virgin, School Nurse; *Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses and Practitioners Annual Education Conference*, March 21-23, 2025, State College. Cost: Registration: $450.00. Lodging: $298.00. Mileage: $150.00. Substitute: $150.00. Total Cost: $959.60. (District)

W-48-01/25 Sutton Barron, Director of Special Education; *2025 PDE Data Summit*, March 24-26, 2025, Hershey. Cost: Registration: $325.00. Lodging: $516.15. Meals: $162.00. Mileage and Tolls: $233.10. Total Cost: $1,236.25. (District)

W-49-01/25 Dustin Rainey, Music Teacher; *Pennsylvania Music Educators Association State Conference,* April 9-12, 2025, Poconos. Cost: Registration: $180.00. Lodging: $500.00. Meals: $100.00. Mileage: $285.00. Substitute for three days: $300.00. Total Cost: $1,365.00. (District)

W-50-01/25 Lynn Bennett, Speech Teacher:

- *Overview of PA Policy and Guidance for ELS Webinar*, April 3, 2025, September 12, 2025. No cost.
- *Developing Targeted ELD Curriculum Webinar*, May 15, 2025, September 12, 2025. No cost.

W-51-01/25 Kimberly Karcher, Family & Consumer Science Teacher; *Pennsylvania Association of Family & Consumer Sciences Western PA Conference*, March 22, 2025, LaRoche University. Cost: $75.00. Meals: $50.00. Mileage:$105.99. Total Cost: $230.99. (District)

W-52-01/25 Jeffrey Boyer, Superintendent; *2025 PLUS Caucus Conference, March 19, 2025, State College. No cost to the District.*

BD-39-01/25 Reaffirm the Principles for Governance and Leadership.

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, Kinsey, McKendree, Pavic, Thompson, Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Moschgat, Rutledge. The motion carried.

IBD-11-01/25 Review the following Policies (David Gates)

- Policy No. 610 Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotations
- Policy No. 626 Procurement Attachment

IBD-12-01/25 Distribution of Statement of Financial Interest Forms - Board Members and Administrators - Due to Patti Craig as soon as possible.

2. Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pavic, to approve BG-15-01/25 through BG-19-01/25.

BG-15-01/25 Approve CamTran Easement to relocate the CamTran shelter back towards the ballfield so it isn't sitting in the middle of the sidewalk

BG-16-01/25 Approve applying for a driveway permit for the entrance on the baseball field side of the project so that the field is accessible by vehicles coming off of Ferndale Avenue.

IBG-01-01/25 A roof discussion was held at the January 15, 2025 Board Workshop. (David Gates)

BG-17-01/25 Approve a 5-year Agreement with Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc. (Tremco) to provide TremCare services at the Elementary at a cost of $19,146.

BG-18-01/25 Approve a 5-year Agreement with Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc. (Tremco) to provide TremCare services at the Junior/Senior High School at a cost of $15,472.

BG-19-01/25 Approve an Agreement with TMR Roofing, Saltsburg, PA to perform remedial roof repairs at the elementary school at a cost of $9,750.

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, Kinsey, McKendree, Pavic, Thompson, Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Moschgat, Rutledge. The motion carried.

3. Cafeteria

None.

4. Education

IE-22-01/25 A discussion on Novels was held at the January 15, 2025 Board Workshop. (Mackenzie Sarka - English) (Jessie Mullen - Social Studies).

E-35-01/25 Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Dr. McKendree, to table the purchase and adoption of the following novels, as presented, for use in English 10 at an estimated cost of $400.

- *This is Where it Ends*
- *The Hate U Give*
- *Cracked*
- *All the Bright Places*
- *Wintergirls*
- *Where I Live*
- *Violent Ends*
- *Dear Evan Hansen*
- *Eleanor and Park*

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Mr. Himes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to approve E-31-01/25 through E-36-01/25.

E-31-01/25 Approve entering into an Agreement with Andrew Klein, Special Education Consultant, Lancaster, PA, for special education services.

E-32-01/25 Approve a Dual Enrollment Agreement between Pennsylvania Western University and Ferndale Area School District for participation in college level courses for the 2024-2025 school year.

E-33-01/25 Approve the Revised 2024-2025 FASD PreK-12 Academic Calendar:

-- January 6, 2025 - Cancellation
April 17, 2025 - Snow make-up day

E-34-01/25 Approve the purchase and adoption of the novel *Harlem Hellfighters*, as presented, for use in American History at an estimated cost of $500.

E-36-01/25 Approve the adoption of the course "Heroes and Monsters", as presented, as an elective for English 9-12 grade.

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, Kinsey, McKendree, Pavic, Thompson, Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Moschgat, Rutledge. The motion carried.

IE-23-01/25 District-wide Highlights (William Brotz, Amy Mykut, Sutton Barron, Adam Barbe)

IE-24-01/25 GJCTC Joint Operating Committee Highlights (Stephen Thompson)

5. Finance

Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kinsey, to approve F-24-01/25 and F-25-01/25.

F-24-01/25 Amend the Adjusted Index in the Act 1 Resolution to 6.4% from 8.4% and change the school year from 2024-2025 to 2025-2026 (previously approved November 20, 2024:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS OF THE FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTING TO NOT INCREASE ITS TAX RATE ABOVE THE INDEX

Whereas, Act 1 of Special Session of 2006 requires school districts to adopt a preliminary budget proposal no later than 90 days prior to the date of which the election immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the preliminary budget will take effect.

And Whereas, Act 1 of Special Session of 2006 further provides that a board of school directors may elect to adopt a resolution no later than 110 days prior to the date of the election immediately preceding the upcoming fiscal year indicating that it will not raise the rate of any tax for the support of its public schools for the following fiscal year by more than the index.

And Whereas, the Board of School Directors of the Ferndale Area School District desires to keep all proposed tax increases for the 2025-2026 school year within its index to provide the necessary revenue to meet the proposed expenditures for the 2025-2026 school year;

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that pursuant to Act 1 of Special Session 2006, the Ferndale Area School District hereby certifies that it shall not increase any tax used for the support of the school district by a rate greater than the base index of 4.0% and an adjusted index of 6.4%.

And Be It Further Resolved, that the board of school directors, hereby certifies that it:

i. Shall not increase any tax at a rate that exceeds the index as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education;

ii. Shall comply with the budgeting procedures set forth in 24 P.S. §6-687 for the adoption of its proposed and final budgets; and

Shall by limiting its tax rate to no greater than the index have sufficient funds to balance its final budget, unless permitted by applicable law and done in accordance with applicable said law. If said clause is not permitted by PDE, then said clause is eliminated.

F-25-01/25 Approve the Ferndale Area School District's Management Discussion and Analysis Report for the fiscal year 2023-2024. (The MD&A is part of the 2023-2024 Independent Auditor Report. Complete 2023-2024 Single Audit Review is available upon request.)

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, Kinsey, McKendree, Pavic, Thompson, Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Moschgat, Rutledge. The motion carried.

6. Personnel

None.

7. Student Activities

Dr. McKendree made a motion, second by Mr. Thompson, to pull out and vote on ST-61-25 separately. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

ST-61-01/25 Approve a one-time $5,000 longevity stipend for the Athletic Director.

Mr. Himes made a motion, to table ST-61-01/25.

ST-61-01/25 Approve a one-time $5,000 longevity stipend for the Athletic Director.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pavic, to approve ST-53-01/25 through ST-63-01/25.

Approve the following coaches for the 2024-2025 season, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork:

ST-53-01/25 *Leigh Ann Dunn, Johnstown, Assistant Junior High Softball Coach. Salary is based on the Coaches Contract.

ST-54-01/25 *Stephen Mitchell, Johnstown, Volunteer Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach.

ST-55-01/25 *Ian Bennett, Johnstown, Volunteer Bowling Coach.

Approve the following coaches for the 2025-2026 season, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork:

ST-56-01/25 *Jason Ozog, Johnstown, Head Varsity Golf Coach. Salary is based on the Coaches Contract.

ST-57-01/25 Alexander Hogue, Meyersdale, Head Varsity Cross Country Coach. Salary is based on the Coaches Contract.

ST-58-01/25 *Gwen Gaviola, Johnstown, Assistant Varsity Cross Country Coach. Salary is based on the Coaches Contract.

ST-59-01/25 Post and/or advertise for the following Coaching positions:

-- Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach (2024-2025 season)
-- Head Varsity Girls' Volleyball Coach (2025-2026 season)
-- Assistant Varsity Girls' Volleyball Coach (2025-2026 season)
-- Head Junior High Girls' Volleyball Coach (2025-2026 season)
-- Assistant Junior High Girls' Volleyball Coach (2025-2026 season)

ST-60-01/25 Approve the Athletic Director Contract.

IST-05-01/25 A discussion on extra pay for extra duty Dance Club was held at the January 15, 2025 Board Workshop.

ST-62-01/25 Create an extra pay for extra duty position:

-- Dance Club Advisor

ST-63-01/25 Approve Lauren Ozog as the Dance Club Advisor at a stipend of $1,250 for the 2024-2025 school year.

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, Kinsey, McKendree, Pavic, Thompson, Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Moschgat, Rutledge. The motion carried.

ST-61-01/25 Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Dr. McKendree, to approve a one-time $5,000 longevity stipend for the Athletic Director. Record vote for the motion: None. Against the motion: Boyle, Himes, Kinsey, McKendree, Pavic, Thompson, Wilson. Abstained: None. Absent: Moschgat, Rutledge. The motion did not pass.

8. Workshops/Conferences

None.

The February Workshop Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12, 2025. The February Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26, 2025.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pavic, to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. All were in favor.