FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Meeting Minutes
GJCTC Board Room
November 20, 2024

The November 20, 2024 Board Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board was held in the Board Room of the Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center, 445 Schoolhouse Road, Johnstown. The Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Boyle at 6:00 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, Jason Moschgat, Richard Pavic, John Rutledge, Stephen Thompson, Patricia Wilson. Absent: James McKendree.

Others in attendance were Jeffrey Boyer, William Brotz, David Gates, Bernard Conway, Amy Mykut, Adam Barbe, Administrators; Christy Sweeney, FAEA/Resident; Susan Sheesley, PSEA Retired; David Gates, Recording Secretary.

V. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

VI. Committees Agenda

The following were presented at the November 13, 2024 Board Workshop:

IP-03-11/24 Digital Marketing Specialist Presentation (Christine Fosbrink)

IST-03-11/24 Fall Sports Wrap-up (Stephen Clawson)

IBD-07-11/24 Student Board Representatives Report.

The Board held an Executive Session at the November 13, 2024 Board Workshop at 7:08 p.m. for personnel and real estate. The Executive Session ended at 8:12 p.m.

IST-03-11/24 GearUp4Kidz Equipment Request for Conemaugh Valley Hockey Discussion.

1. Board

Mr. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kinsey, to approve BD-14-11/24 through BD-16-11/24.

BD-14-11/24 Approve the November 20, 2024 Board Meeting Consent Agenda items (BD-15-11/24 through W-37-11/24).

BD-15-11/24 Approve the Minutes of the October 23, 2024 Board Meeting, as presented.

BG-11-11/24 Approve Robert Wilson-Cokes as a bus driver for Mlaker Transportation, Inc. for the 2024-2025 school year.

IE-14-11/24 Enrollment numbers distribution.

IE-15-11/24 Students and staff will be dismissed two hours early on Wednesday, November 27, 2024 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Classes will resume on Tuesday, December 3, 2024.

F-14-11/24 Approve the October Treasurer's Report, as presented.

F-15-11/24 Approve the General Fund and Cafeteria Bills, as presented.

IF-10-11/24 Section 341(b) of SS Act 1 requires school boards to notify, by first class mail, the owner of each parcel of residential property within the district by December 31, 2024, of the existence of the homestead and farmstead exclusion program, the need to file an application in order to qualify for the program, and the application deadline of March 1, 2025. This function will be performed by Infocon Corporation.

IF-11-11/24 The Community Foundation for the Alleghenies FASD Endowment Fund donor statement balance (July 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024) is $3,756.43.

IF-12-11/24 Received a grant award of $1,000 to support the 2024 Ridley Banks Memorial Tip Off Tournament. This grant was made through a donor requested distribution from the Ridley Banks Memorial Fund to Benefit the Students of FASD.

IF-13-11/24 Receipts and disbursements.

ST-31-11/24 Approve the 36 Marching Band students' participation in Veterans' Day Parade in Johnstown on November 11, 2024. Cost: Transportation: $350.00. (District)

ST-32-11/24 Approve the nine Band students' participation in Cambria County Band Festival at Bishop McCort on December 5-6, 2024. Cost: Registration: $225.00. Transportation: $475.00. Substitute for two days: $200.00. Total Cost: $900.00. (District)

ST-33-11/24 Approve students' participation in a Reading Competition at Bellwood-Antis High School on November 19, 2024. Cost: Registration: $125.00. Transportation: $435.00. Substitute for two days: $200.00. Total Cost: $760.00. (District)

ST-34-11/24 Approve the 3D Art II class (7 students) participation in holiday window painting at the Suppes Ford in Johnstown on November 19, 2024. Substitute: $100.00. Transportation: $275.00. Total Cost: $375.00. (District)

ST-35-11/24 Approve the Forensics Team (9 students) participation in a Forensics Competition at Cambria Heights High School on December 5, 2024. Cost: Transportation: $500.00. Substitute: $100.00. Total Cost: $600.00. (District)

ST-36-11/24 Approve the Spanish I, III, IV classes (35-45 students) field trip to Byham Theater in Pittsburgh on March 6, 2025. Cost: Tickets and lunch: $35.00 per student - Paid by Students. Transportation - Paid by Pittsburgh Cultural Trust. Substitute: $100.00 - Paid by District.

ST-37-11/24 Approve the Spanish II, III, IV classes (35-43 students) field trip to Roberto Clemente Museum on March 26, 2025. Cost: Tickets: $12.00 per student. Transportation - $695.00. Substitute for two: $200.00. Total Cost: $1,411.00. (District)

Approve the following workshops/conferences:

W-30-11/24 Kimberly Karcher, Family & Consumer Science Teacher, *Conductive Threads: Creating with Fiber Arts & Circuitry*, Pittsburgh, November 2, 2024. Cost: Registration: $25.00. Meals: $50.00. Mileage: $92.46. Total Cost: $167.46. (District)

W-31-11/24 Adam Barbe, School Psychologist, *School Psychologist Awareness Week: One Day Conference*, IUP, November 15, 2024. Cost: Transportation: $38.86. (District)

W-32-11/24 Melanie Duffy-Engle, Music Teacher, *PMEA Annual In-Service Conference*, Kalahari, April 10-12, 2025. Cost: Registration: $180.00. Lodging: $359.70. Meals: $50.00. Mileage: $317.58. Substitute for two days: $200.00. Total Cost: $1,107.28. (District)

W-33-11/24 Jennifer Gorzelsky, Reading Specialist, *Unpacking the SOR: Explicit Phonics Instruction,* IU8 Duncansville, December 12, 2024. Cost: Registration: $50.00. Meals: $15.00. Mileage: $48.24. Total Cost: $113.24. (District)

W-34-11/24 Jennifer Gorzelsky, Reading Specialist, *Unpacking the SOR: Comprehension and Close Reading,* IU8 Duncansville, January 9, 2025. Cost: Registration: $50.00. Meals: $15.00. Mileage: $48.24. Total Cost: $113.24. (District)

W-35-11/24 Jennifer Gorzelsky, Reading Specialist, *Unpacking the SOR: Vocabulary and Oral Language,* IU8 Duncansville, February 12, 2025. Cost: Registration: $50.00. Meals: $15.00. Mileage: $48.24. Total Cost: $113.24. (District)

W-36-11/24 Amy Mykut, Principal; Jennifer Gorzelsky, Reading Specialist; Maeve Hrabosky, MTSS Coordinator; Stephanie Mino, MTSS; *Improving School Performance Conference,* Pittsburgh, January 26-29, 2025. Cost: Registration for two: $525.00 each. Registration for two: $150.00 each. Meals: $78.00 each. Mileage: $227.48. Total Cost: $1,889.48. (Title I)

W-37-11/24 Judith Virgin, School Nurse, *School Nurse Annual Conference - Virtual*, February 17, 2024. Cost: Substitute: $116.25. (District)

IBD-08-11/24 Review the following policies (Jeffrey Boyer)

- Revised Policy No. 113.1 Discipline of Students with Disabilities
- Revised Policy No. 113.2 Behavior Support
- Revised Policy No. 236.1 Threat Assessment
- Revised Policy No. 247 Hazing
- Revised Policy No. 317.1 Educator Misconduct
- Revised Policy No. 351 Controlled Substance Abuse
- Revised Policy No. 607 Tuition Income
- Revised Policy No. 802 School Organization
- Revised Policy No. 824 Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries

BD-16-11/24 Approve, as read, the First Reading of the following policies:

- Revised Policy No. 113.1 Discipline of Students with Disabilities
- Revised Policy No. 113.2 Behavior Support
- Revised Policy No. 236.1 Threat Assessment
- Revised Policy No. 247 Hazing
- Revised Policy No. 317.1 Educator Misconduct
- Revised Policy No. 351 Controlled Substance Abuse
- Revised Policy No. 607 Tuition Income
- Revised Policy No. 802 School Organization
- Revised Policy No. 824 Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries

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

2. Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Himes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to approve BG-12-11/24 and BG-13-11/24.

BG-12-11/24 Approve intent to provide pupil transportation services for the 2024-2025 school year.

BG-13-11/24 Approve agreement with CM Eichenlaub Co. at a cost of $13,373 for the elementary school bleachers repair.

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

3. Cafeteria

None.

4. Education

Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pavic, to approve E-27-11/24 through E-29-11/24

E-27-11/24 Approve an Agreement with Ignite Education Solutions, Johnstown, to employ Nicole Eicher-Kupchella as an Instrumental Instructor, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork.

E-28-11/24 Approve an agreement with Ignite Education Solutions, Johnstown, to employ Marsha Baumbaugh as a Mathematics Teacher to teach Precalculus and Calculus, two - three hours per day, at a rate of $45.00 per hour effective December 3, 2024, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork.

E-29-11/24 Approve an educational enhancement program for the 2024-2025 school year as presented.

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

The following were presented at the November 13, 2024 Board Workshop:

IE-16-11/24 District-wide Highlights (William Brotz, Amy Mykut, Bernard Conway, Sutton Barron, Adam Barbe)

IE-17-11/24 GJCTC Joint Operating Committee Highlights (Stephen Thompson)

5. Finance

Mr. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rutledge, to approve F-16-11/24 through F-19-11/24.

F-16-11/24 Approve the following Resolution:

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 2024-2025 school year within its index to provide the necessary revenue to meet the proposed expenditures for the 2024-2025 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 8.4%.

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-17-11/24 Approve an agreement between Montgomery County Intermediate Unit and Ferndale Area School District for Level Data – State Data Validation Suite Plugin for PowerSchool from January 21, 2025 through January 20, 2026. Cost: $854.00.

F-18-11/24 Approve an agreement with Kelly Generator & Equipment, Inc (Owings, MD) to perform Semi-Annual Maintenance on the newly installed high school generator at a cost of $902.

F-19-11/24 Approve an agreement with Kelly Generator & Equipment, Inc (Owings, MD) to perform Semi-Annual Maintenance on the newly installed elementary generator at a cost of $838.

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

6. Personnel

Mr. Himes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to approve P-34-11/24 though P-36-11/24.

P-34-11/24 Approve Diana Tyger, Johnstown, as a Substitute School Nurse.

P-35-11/24 Approve Michael Kasuba, Windber, resignation as a Mathematics Teacher, effective November 27, 2024.

P-36-11/24 Approve Gabrielle Slagel, Johnstown as a long term substitute Mathematics Teacher at a rate of $230 per day worked, effective December 3, 2024, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork.

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

7. Student Activities

Mr. Wilson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kinsey, to approve ST-38-11/24 through ST-40-11/24.

ST-38-11/24 Post and/or advertise for an Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach for the 2024-2025 season.

ST-39-11/24 Post and/or advertise for the following Coaches for the 2025-2026 season:

- Head Varsity Girls' Volleyball Coach
- Assistant Varsity Girls' Volleyball Coach
- Head Junior High Girls' Volleyball Coach
- Assistant Junior High Girls' Volleyball Coach
- Head Cross Country Coach
- Assistant Cross Country Coach
- Head Varsity Golf Coach

ST-40-11/24 Approve creating a Student Activity Account for the High School Interact Club.

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

ST-41-11/24 Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pavic, to approve amending the agenda and adding the following motion:

Approve the purchase of a $600 ad for Conemaugh Valley's Hockey Program to offset the costs for 6 Ferndale Hockey players at $100 each (4 High School, 2 Elementary).

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

ST-42-11/24 Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pavic, to approve the purchase of a $600 ad for Conemaugh Valley's Hockey Program to offset the costs for 6 Ferndale Hockey players at $100 each Ferndale Hockey players at $100 each (4 High School, 2 Elementary). Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, Kinsey, Moschgat, Pavic, Rutledge, Thompson, Wilson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: McKendree. The motion carried.

8. Workshops/Conferences

None.

The December Reorganization Workshop/Voting Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2024.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pavic, to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 p.m. All were in favor.