FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Meeting
Jr-Sr High School Auditorium
April 21, 2021

I. The April 21, 2021 Board Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board was held in the Ferndale Area School District Junior-Senior High School Auditorium, 600 Harlan Avenue, Johnstown, PA and virtually through the Ferndale Area School District's website at www.fasdk12.org. The Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Boyle at 7:07 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 on April 21, 2021 will be tape recorded and entry constitutes consent to the taping of any individual who comments.

Please note Policy No. 903 Public Participation in Board Meetings is on the FASD website under Board Policies.

IV. Roll Call: Present: Susan Boyle, Barry Himes, Joshua Hyland, Mark Lux, James McKendree, Jason Moschgat, Richard Pavic, Stephen Thompson, and Patricia Wilson. Absent: None.

Student Board Representative: Absent: Justin Pavic.

Others in attendance were Jeffrey Boyer, David Gates, William Brotz, Rachelle Hrabosky, Travis Robison, Administrators; Attorney Carl Beard, Jr., Solicitor; Brandon Manack, FAEA; Toby Bialas, District Technology Coordinator; Angela McKendree, Parent; Alexis McKendree, Student; Patricia Craig, Recording Secretary.

*Suspend the provision of Policy No. 903 Public Participation in Board Meetings pertaining to public participant(s) statements which will be limited to three minutes at this meeting.

V. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

VI.	Committees Agenda
IC-04-04/21	P-EBT Presentation (William Brotz, Lori McGough)
1.	Board
	Mr. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Himes, to approve BD-55-04/21 through BD-57-04/21.
BD-55-04/21	Approve the April 21, 2021 Board Meeting Consent Agenda items (BD-56-04/21 through IF-20-04/21).
BD-56-04/21	Approve the Minutes of the March 24, 2021 Board Meeting, as presented.
BG-19-04/21	Approve the following bus driver for Mlaker Transportation, Inc. for the 2020-2021 school year: -- Regis Hipp
F-30-04/21	Approve the March Treasurer's Report, as presented.
F-31-04/21	Approve the General Fund and Cafeteria Bills, as presented.
F-32-04/21	Approve Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 Policies and Procedures adoption under the federal requirements of 34 CFR Part 300 and the 2021-2022 Funding Distribution IDEA-B, Section 611.
IF-20-04/21	Receipts and disbursements.
BD-57-04/21	Approve, as read, the Second Reading, of the following policies and adopt said policies: -- Revised Policy No. 103 Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students -- Revised Policy No. 122 Extracurricular Activities -- Revised Policy No. 123 Interscholastic Athletics -- Revised Policy No. 123.2 Sudden Cardiac Arrest -- Revised Policy No. 137.1 Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students -- Revised Policy No. 138 Language Instruction Educational Program for English Learners -- Policy No. 146.1 Trauma-Informed Approach -- Revised Policy No. 150 Title I - Comparability of Services

-- Policy No. 218.3 Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault
-- Revised Policy No. 705 Facilities and Workplace Safety
-- Revised Policy No. 803 School Calendar
-- Revised Policy No. 904 Public Attendance at School Events

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

2. Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Dr. McKendree, to approve BG-20-04/21 through BG-21-04/21.

BG-20-04/21 Approve HHSDR Architects/Engineers, Sharon, PA, to complete an Elementary School Facility Study and Junior-Senior High School Facility Study for a fee of $19,000 for both, plus reimbursable costs for printing and copying.

BG-21-04/21 Accept the bid of LMJ Contractors, Inc, Bedford, for the amount of $693,800, to perform sewage project at the Junior-Senior High School.

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

3. Cafeteria

None.

4. Education

Mr. Moschgat made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lux, to approve E-48-04/21 through E-50-04/21.

E-48-04/21 Approve the following Resolution:

Resolution Calling for Charter School Legislation Reform by The Board of Directors of the Bedford County, Blair County, Cambria County, and Somerset County School Districts

WHEREAS, charter schools are independent entities separate from public school districts, and yet Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 school districts spent over $10 million, via mandatory payments to brick-and-mortar and cyber charter schools for the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, the charter school tuition funding formula is fundamentally flawed because it mandates the inclusion of charter school tuition costs paid by each district in its total expenses; therefore, the per-student tuition rate is inflated, insofar as the tuition rates districts pay charter schools are actually higher than each district's per-student expenditure; and

WHEREAS, the mandated charter school tuition rate calculations are based on school districts' expenses, including costs for career and technical education programs and student activities such as athletics, intramurals, and fine arts; all of which charter schools are not required to provide, and many do not offer, leading to further inflated tuition payments; and

WHEREAS, charter schools frequently spend less than they receive for special education services; this is primarily due to charter schools disproportionately identifying students with special needs in certain less costly areas and avoiding the enrollment of students with special needs in certain costlier areas; and

WHEREAS, charter schools are not governed by boards with members elected by the community, and elected public school district school boards have no oversight authority on how charter schools use public funding; and further, many charter schools do not publicize their meetings and provide financial and policy transparency, leading to potential hidden conflicts of interest; and

WHEREAS, all of our school districts offer cyber learning options for students with local oversight at a significantly lower cost than cyber charter schools; and

WHEREAS, cyber charter schools typically have minimal facilities or grounds for student use, but receive the same per capita funding as their brick-and-mortar counterparts, which shifts funding away from both public-school districts and brick-and-mortar charter schools; and

WHEREAS, the need for significant charter school funding reform remains vital. For years, school districts have been challenged to keep up with escalating charter school costs while struggling to minimize tax increases but also maintain programs; and

WHEREAS, while up to 25 percent of the faculty at charter schools may be uncertified, public school districts are required to employ 100 percent certified faculty, which creates an uneven playing field that can result in public school districts encountering obstacles with offering programs when certified teachers are not available.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the respective boards of directors for the undersigned school districts, in light of our concerns with the current charter school law, call upon local legislators to support the proposed charter school reform bill and address the following:

- Eliminate the inclusion of charter tuition costs and students within the tuition formula;
- Reform charter funding formula to eliminate costs for programming not offered - career and technical centers, athletics, intramurals, fine arts, and other extracurricular activities;
- Reform special education to align costs with services provided and ensure appropriate student identification;
- Enhance the power and authority of school boards in charter oversight, increasing transparency and taxpayer understanding;
- Enforce equal prohibitions on conflicts of interest;
- Require school district board representation on charter school boards;
- Eliminate tuition payments to cyber charter schools if a school district offers a cyber option; and
- Provide school districts with the same teacher certification flexibility.

In light of the critical need for reform, we are advocating for substantial change in order to better realize the stated goal of the current charter school law to “improve pupil learning.” Each district's administration will inform and educate their respective communities on the issues described in this resolution. We encourage our community members to weigh in on this important matter and share their thinking with their legislators.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be posted on the respective districts’ websites and submitted to the elected state senators and representatives of our school districts in the General Assembly, and to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Adopted by each of our school boards during the month of April 2021.

E-49-04/21

Approve the purchase of EdInsight with ESSER Funds from Harris Education Solutions for the 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025 school years at a cost not to exceed $39,700.00, as presented.

E-50-04/21 Approve the following updates to the Ferndale Area School District's Health and Safety Plan, as presented. (Jeffrey Boyer)

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

IE-47-04/21 Class-size guidelines for K-4 was discussed at the April 14, 2021 Board Meeting Workshop (Jeffrey Boyer)

IE-48-04/21 Elementary and High School Highlights Report were presented at the April 14, 2021 Board Meeting Workshop(Rachelle Hrabosky, Travis Robison)

IE-49-04/21 Student Board Representative Report was presented at the April 14, 2021 Board Meeting Workshop. (Justin Pavic)

IE-50-04/21 March 23, 2021 Highlights of the GJCTC Joint Operating Committee were presented at the April 14, 2021 Board Meeting Workshop. (Stephen Thompson)

5. Personnel

Mr. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hyland, to approve P-54-04/21 through P-57-04/21.

P-54-04/21 Post all applicable extra pay for extra-duty positions in May per current FAEA contract:

-- Advisor - Junior Class
-- Advisor - Senior Class (2)
-- All School Play
-- Assistant Band Director
-- Audio/Video Director - Secondary
-- Color Guard Advisor
-- Curriculum Support Chairperson - Elementary Language Arts
-- Curriculum Support Chairperson - Elementary Math
-- Curriculum Support Chairperson - Elementary Science
-- Curriculum Support Chairperson - Elementary Social Studies
-- Department Chair - Secondary Language Arts
-- Department Chair - Secondary Math
-- Department Chair - Secondary Science
-- Department Chair - Secondary Social Studies
-- Detention Monitor, 3 Hr Session (Wednesday, Friday)
-- Detention Monitor, 1 Hr Session (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday)

-- Elementary LEGO League (Semester 1)
-- Elementary STEAM (Semester 2)
-- Forensics - Senior High
-- K4 Orientation
-- Kindergarten Orientation
-- Math Counts Advisor
-- Mentor (As Needed)
-- National Honor Society/Post Prom
-- PBIS Advisor - Elementary
-- PBIS Advisor - Secondary
-- Reading Team Advisor - Elementary
-- Reading Team Advisor - Junior High
-- Reading Team Advisor - Senior High
-- Stage, Lights & Sound Manager - Secondary
-- Student Council Advisor
-- Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Advisor
-- Yearbook Advisor - Elementary
-- Yearbook Advisor - Secondary
-- Yearbook Advisor - Secondary Assistant

P-55-04/21 Approve the following new position:

-- MTSS Coordinator

P-56-04/21 Beginning the 2021-2022 school year, eliminate the vacant Business, Computer and Information Technology (BCIT) position at the Junior-Senior High School due to economies and efficiencies in operation.

P-57-04/21 Beginning the 2021- 2022 school year, eliminate one teaching position via attrition in the Elementary School due to economies and efficiencies in operation.

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

6. Student Activities

None.

7. Workshops/Conferences

None.

8. Finance

IF-21-04/21 Presentation of the 2021-2022 school year proposed Final Budget (David Gates)

F-33-04/21 Mr. Lux made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hyland, to approve Option F as the Millage Increase for the 2021-2022 school year:

Value of a Mill	$ 28,301		
Current Millage	87.00		
	Millage Increase	% Increase	Dollar Increase
Base Index	2.61	3.0%	$ 73,866
Adjusted Act 1 Index	4.09	4.7%	$ 115,723
Other Options			
A	-	0.0%	$ -
B	0.50	0.6%	$ 14,151
C	1.00	1.1%	$ 28,301
D	1.50	1.7%	$ 42,452
E	2.00	2.3%	$ 56,602
F	2.50	2.9%	$ 70,753
G	3.00	3.4%	$ 84,903
H	3.50	4.0%	$ 99,054
I	4.00	4.6%	$ 113,204

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

Mr. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hyland, to approve F-34-04/21 and F-35-04/21.

F-34-04/21 Approve the 2021-2022 school year proposed Final Budget as presented, using the District's Fund Balance to balance the budget. The estimated remaining Fund Balance at June 30, 2022, $993,622, shall be classified as Unreserved, Designated for future pension obligations and health care increase. The Preliminary Budget proposed $14,308,950 in Expenditures and $12,302,572 in Revenues.

F-35-04/21 Approve posting the 2021-2022 proposed Final Budget for public inspection.

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

The May Board Meeting Workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, 2021. The May Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 26, 2021.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hyland, to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. All were in favor.

An Executive Session was held at 8:00 p.m. for personnel. The Executive Session ended at 8:30 p.m.