FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Meeting Minutes
Board Room
August 17, 2011

I. The August 17, 2011 Board Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board was held in the Board Room of the Elementary School, 100 Dartmouth Avenue, Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The Meeting was called to order by Mr. Banks at 6:09 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Roll Call: Present: Susan Bailey, Ridley Banks, Sandra Chobany, Melissa Garman, Wayne Meekins, Barbara Penna, and Stephen Thompson. Absent: Greg Blue and Edward Jones.

Others in attendance were Carole Kakabar, William Brotz, John Kowal, Brian McDermott, Administrators; Robert Boyle, At-Risk Coordinator; Attorney David Novak, Solicitor; Rachelle Hrabosky, Susan Layton, Stephanie Mino, Amy Schmidt, Teachers; Judith Virgin, School Nurse; Rebecca Boxler, Allison Stancombe, Tina Brown, Pee Wee Cheerleading; Patricia Craig, Recording Secretary.

IV. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

IBD-01A-08/11 Rebecca Boxler and Allison Stancombe addressed the Board regarding use of the Junior-Senior High School Gymnasium for Pee Wee Cheerleading.

IBD-01B-08/11 Susan Layton, FAEA, informed the Board that the Association approved the contract on Monday evening.

V. Committees Agenda

1. Board

IBD-02-08/11 A welcome back breakfast was held on Wednesday, August 24, 2011 at 7:00 a.m. in the High School Cafeteria. All Board Members were invited to attend and to stay for the Superintendent's Welcome from 7:30 - 8:10 a.m.

BD-03-08/11	Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to approve the August 17, 2011 Board Meeting Consent Agenda items (BD-04-08/11 through W-01-08/11).
BD-04-08/11	Approve the Minutes of the June 15, 2011 Board Meeting and the July 20, 2011 Special Board Meeting, as presented.
IBD-03-08/11	Received a thank you card from Frank McCleester.
C-01-08/11	Approve the delinquent lunch accounts process which will be fully implemented in 2011-12 (process, notification actions, consequences)
IC-01-08/11	The Single Audit Report for the year ending June 30, 2009, by the Bureau of Food Distribution, including the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) has been approved and found in compliance.
IE-02-08/11	K4 orientation was held on Thursday, August 18, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.
IE-03-08/11	Kindergarten orientation was held on Thursday, August 18, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.
IE-04-08/11	An orientation for new students entering the Elementary School was held on Thursday, August 18, 2011 at 12:00 noon.
IE-05-08/11	An orientation for new students entering the High School was held at the Ferndale Area High School Auditorium on Friday, August 26, 2011 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
IE-06-08/11	The following have been assigned as a student teacher (UPJ) in the Ferndale Area Junior/Senior High School for the 2011-12 fall term:

Student Teacher	Cooperating Teacher	Subject
Ben Hoover	Stephen Clawson	Mathematics

IE-07-08/11	Northern Point Learning, Inc. has closed as of July 31, 2011. Ferndale Area students requiring alternative education for disruptive youth placement will be assigned to ACRP or other appropriate placements.
F-01-08/11	Approve the June and July Treasurer's Reports, as presented.
F-02-08/11	Approve the General Fund and Hot Lunch Bills, as presented.

IF-01-08/11	Received Audit Report from Ed Cernic, Jr., Cambria County Controller for the following Tax Collectors: Beverly Held Dale Borough No major concerns were raised based upon their review, therefore there are no written comments included in the report.
IF-02-08/11	Receipts and disbursements.
P-09-08/11	Approve the following to the substitute teachers list: Suzanne Policicchio, Sarah Ridge, Catherine Summerson, Elizabeth Thomas, Heather Schutte, James Allison, Dennis Altimore, Karen Arcurio, Christopher Barkley, Nadia Bernardy, Thomas Byrne, Alvin Carnahan, Ethel Carney, Darcie Clark, Rick Clark, Clifford Cook, Fairhope, Chelsea Cover, Jeremy Datsko, Patricia Dolence, Lisa Downey, Kimberly Fulcher-Lee, Melissa Furfari, Donna Gambol, Ryan George, Marie Goff, Michele Haschak, John Hornick, Ellen Keeney, Deborah Kesslak, Deborah Kiehart, Thomas Kielbasinski, Brad King, Lynn Mandel, Kimberly Marley, Michael Meketa, Thomas Minana, Leroy Moran, Brittany Morgenstern, Teressa Morris, Nancy Moses, John Nibert, Geraldine Patterson, Carole Pavolsky, Damon Pulgino, Mark Reddecliff, David Rose, Peter Rossi, Diana Schad, Sonya Seitz, Vicki Shaw, Michael Soloman, Amanda Tercek, William Thomas, Jr., Alicia Wian-Schweiter,
P-10-08/11	Approve David Hodos, Teena Petrus, and Richard Schleicher to the substitute support staff list.
P-11-08/11	Approve Elyse Uhlig as an Elementary AmeriCorps worker from August 22, 2011 through June 22, 2012. Ms. Uhlig was an AmeriCorps worker at the Elementary School in 2010-2011. ($9,800 cash match by the District was approved June 15, 2011.)
ST-07-08/11	Approve the By-Laws of the Ferndale Area Yellow Jacket Football Club. (Club formation was approved June 15, 2011.)
W-01-08/11	B. Wayne Lohr, State and Federal Programs Coordinator; *PAFPC/PDE Leadership on Program and Fiscal Compliance* in Pittsburgh on August 3, 4, 5, 2011. Cost: Registration: $335.00. Lodging for two nights: $235.00. Meals: $50.00. Travel: $80.00. Total Cost: $690.00. (Title I) Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.

The Board went into an Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. for contract and a legal issue. The Executive Session ended at 7:48 p.m.

IBD-04-08/11

Scott Miles, Wresting Coach, addressed the Board regarding the Wrestling Boosters getting a new lightweight wrestling mat. (No cost to District)

P-21A-08/11

Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to amend the agenda and add the following motions:

-- approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Ferndale Area Education Association for September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2014 for wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment for the stated period, noting that sections of the agreement dealing with wages and healthcare benefits may be negotiated annually during the life of this contract;

-- approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the Ferndale Area Education Association so that Mr. Frank McCleester shall be afforded the rights set forth in the newly ratified collective bargaining agreement under Article VII. Section H Sick Leave Incentive Upon Retirement, for the purposes of purchasing health care for his spouse, and noting that Mr. McCleester shall have 144 sick days leave to be used for the purpose of purchasing health care coverage as set forth in Article VII. Section H.2(I) of the newly ratified collective bargaining agreement;

-- approve an amendment to the Act 93 Agreement for Administrators to change the pay increment for the year 2011-2012 to 2.0%;

-- approve an amendment to the Superintendent's Contract to change the pay increment for the year 2011-2012 to 2.0%;

-- approve an hourly increase for FASD Support Staff of $0.24 to $0.40 per hour per employee based on job classification. (Approved at the June 15, 2011, Board meeting, to put into effect July 1, 2011, and to be ratified at the next official board meeting pending the outcome of teacher and administrator salary negotiations);

-- approve the settlement and release agreement between Jennifer Reiter and Ferndale Area School District and the Board of School Directors and authorize the Superintendent and the Board President to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the settlement;

-- approve the sale of the current Pinnacle wrestling mat for $5,000 and to use the proceeds of that sale for a new lightweight Resilite mat with the provision that the Ferndale Area Wrestling Boosters pay the difference between $5,000 and the cost of the new mat.

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

P-21-08/11 Mr. Meekins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Garman, to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Ferndale Area Education Association for September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2014 for wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment for the stated period, noting that sections of the agreement dealing with wages and healthcare benefits may be negotiated annually during the life of this contract. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.

P-22-08/11 Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the Ferndale Area Education Association so that Mr. Frank McCleester shall be afforded the rights set forth in the newly ratified collective bargaining agreement under Article VII. Section H Sick Leave Incentive Upon Retirement, for the purposes of purchasing health care for his spouse, and noting that Mr. McCleester shall have 144 sick days leave to be used for the purpose of purchasing health care coverage as set forth in Article VII. Section H.2(I) of the newly ratified collective bargaining agreement. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.

P-23-08/11 Mrs. Chobany made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to approve an amendment to the Act 93 Agreement for Administrators to change the pay increment for the year 2011-2012 to 2.0%. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.

P-24-08/11 Mr. Meekins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to approve an amendment to the Superintendent's Contract to change the pay increment for the year 2011-2012 to 2.0%. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.

P-25-08/11 Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to approve an hourly increase for FASD Support Staff of $0.24 to $0.40 per hour per employee based on job classification. (Approved at the June 15, 2011, Board meeting, to put into effect July 1, 2011, and to be ratified at the next official board meeting pending the outcome of teacher and administrator salary negotiations). Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.

P-26-08/11 Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve the settlement and release agreement between Jennifer Reiter and Ferndale Area School District and the Board of School Directors and authorize the Superintendent and the Board President to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the settlement. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.

BG-03-08/11 Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve the sale of the current Pinnacle wrestling mat for $5,000 and to use the proceeds of that sale for a new lightweight Resilite mat with the provision that the Ferndale Area Wrestling Boosters pay the difference between $5,000 and the cost of the new mat. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.

2. Buildings and Grounds

BG-02-08/11 Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve the bus runs and the following bus drivers for Mlaker Transportation, Inc. for the 2011-12 school year:

- Linda C. Beale
- Earl Birch
- Christopher Bagley
- Greg Beale
- Dana Croyle
- Brian L. Dugan
- David Golden
- Rich Gwinn
- Roger Haney (pending FBI clearance)
- Ervin W. Hoover
- Daniel N. Horvath

– Frederick Kirkwood (pending FBI clearance)
– Janice Lamison
– Donald L. Mack
– Kristy McCullough
– Craig Mlaker
– Matthew Mlaker
– Robert Rubal
– Ellen Schatz
– James Schatz
– Raymond Yoder

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

IBG-01-08/11 Update of the progress of the Junior-Senior High School Facilities options - Carole Kakabar.

3. Cafeteria

IC-02-08/11 Notice was received, August 5, 2011, that Ferndale Area Elementary Cafeteria was award $11,031 through the Competitive School Food Service Equipment Grant for a convection oven. There were over 280 applications submitted with only 54 funded.

C-02-08/11 Mr. Meekins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to approve the purchase of a Market Forge 2AM36G300A Pressure Steamer for the Junior-Senior High School Cafeteria, at a cost of $23,518.00 from Superior Sales Company, Johnstown, PA. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.

4. Education

Mrs. Chobany made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to approve E-02-08/11, E-03-08/11, E-04-08/11, and E-05-08/11.

E-02-08/11 Approve the following new courses starting the 2011-12 school year:

-- Current Events, Social Studies .5 credit
1 semester (Grades 11-12)

-- Competitive Team Sports, Physical Education .5 credit
1 semester (Grades 10, 11, 12)

-- Driver Education .5 credit
1 semester (Grades 10, 11, 12)

E-03-08/11 Approve a Life Skills Training Program for grades 6, 7, 8 provided by ACRP counselors (Evidence Based Substance Abuse Program funding by the Cambria County Drug and Alcohol, three-year program, 15 sessions per grade per year). No cost to District.

E-04-08/11 Approve a Gambling Prevention Program for grades 6, 7, 8 provided by Learning Lamp teachers (PDE Researched Based Gambling Prevention Program, one year, five sessions per grade, large group assemblies). No cost to District and Learning Lamp will pay for the Pennsylvania Youth Survey in Fall 2011).

E-05-08/11 Approve agreements with the Learning Lamp for Title I services to be provided to nonpublic schools for 2011-12 (Cathedral Catholic Academy, Johnstown Christian School, Our Mother of Sorrows, and St. Benedict School). (Title I)

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.

IE-08-08/11 Highlights of the Joint Operating Committee - Ridley Banks/Barbara Penna.

IE-09-08/11 Start of School Year Initiatives
-- District - Carole Kakabar
-- Elementary - William Brotz
-- High School - Brian McDermott

5. Finance

F-03-08/11 Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Board of School Directors of the Ferndale Area School District, that homestead and farmstead exclusion real estate tax assessment reductions are authorized for the school year beginning July 1, 2011, under the provisions of the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006), as follows:

1. Aggregate amount available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction. The following amount is available for homestead and

farmstead real estate tax reduction for the school year beginning July 1, 2011:

a. Gambling tax funds. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. 6926.505(b), as a property tax reduction allocation funded by gambling tax funds, the amount of $303,356.74.

2. Homestead/farmstead numbers. Pursuant to Act 50, 54 Pa. C.S. 8584(1), and Act 1, 53 P.S. 6926.341(g)(3), the County has provided the School District with a certified report listing approved homesteads and approved farmsteads as follows:

a. Homestead property number. The number of approved homesteads within the School District is 1,431.

b. Farmstead property number. The number of approved farmsteads within the School District is 2.

c. Homestead/farmstead combined number. Adding these numbers, the aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads is 1,433.

3. Real estate tax reduction calculation. The homestead exclusion amount and farmstead exclusion amount shall be equal. Dividing the paragraph 1(a) amount available during the school year for real estate tax reduction of $303,356.74 by the paragraph 29(c) aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads of 1,433, the maximum real estate tax reduction amount applicable to each approved homestead and to each approved farmstead is $211.69.

4. Homestead exclusion calculation. Dividing the paragraph 3 maximum real estate tax reduction amount of $211.69 by the School District real estate tax rate of 67.25 mills (.06725), the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a homestead exclusion for each approved homestead is $3,148, and the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a farmstead exclusion for each approved farmstead is $3,148.

5. Homestead/farmstead exclusion authorization-July 1 tax bills. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved homestead within the School District shall reflect a homestead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County established assessed value of the homestead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real

estate assessed value reduction of $3,148. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved farmstead within the School District shall reflect an additional farmstead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County established assessed value of the farmstead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of $3,148. For purposes of this Resolution, "Approved homestead" and "approved farmstead" shall mean homesteads and farmsteads listed in the report referred to in paragraph 2 above and received by the School District from the County Assessment Office on or before May 1 pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. 6926.341(g)(3), based on homestead/ farmstead applications filed with the County Assessment Office on or before March 1. This paragraph 5 will apply to tax notices issued based on the initial tax duplicate used in issuing initial real estate tax notices for the school year, which will be issued on or promptly after July 1, and will not apply to interim real estate tax bills.

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

6. Personnel

Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve P-12-08/11, P-13-08/11, P-14-08/11, P-15-08/11, and P-16-08/11.

P-12-08/11 Approve the retirement resignation of Carol Hanik, Junior-Senior High School Cafeteria Cook, effective July 12, 2011.

P-13-08/11 Post (advertise, if necessary) a Junior-Senior High School Cafeteria Cook position.

P-14-08/11 Approve Eileen Zankey as the Elementary Bullying Prevention Coordinator at a stipend of $315.00.

P-15-08/11 Approve the following extra pay for extra duty positions for the 2011-12 school year:

-- Nola Barton, Audio/Video Director - Elementary

-- Daniel Burket, Audio/Video Director - Secondary

P-16-08/11	Approve the following mentor for the 2011-12 school year:
	-- Lesley Miller for Latrace Dixon, Special Education.
	Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.
	Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to approve P-17-08/11 and P-18-08/11.
P-17-08/11	Rescind Item P-70-04/11 "Hire Dr. William Brotz as the Elementary Principal/District Technology Coordinator for Ferndale Area School District, beginning the 2011-12 school year at an annual salary of $78,000 with full benefits, with a per diem rate of $325 effective June 15, 2011."
P-18-08/11	Hire Dr. William Brotz as the Elementary Principal/District Technology Coordinator for Ferndale Area School District, beginning July 1, 2011, at an annual salary of $78,000 with full benefits, with a per diem rate of $325 effective June 15, 2011.
	Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.
	Mr. Meekins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to approve P-19-08/11 and P-20-08/11..
P-19-08/11	Rescind Item P-05-07/11 "Hire Lori Himes as full-time Personal Care Assistant for an elementary student, at a stipend of $7.15 per hour, with limited benefits, beginning the 2011-12 school year."
P-20-08/11	Hire Lori Himes as full-time Personal Care Assistant for an elementary student, at a stipend of $7.25 per hour, with limited benefits, beginning the 2011-12 school year."
	Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.
7.	Student Activities
	None.

8. Workshops/Conferences

Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve the following conferences/workshops:

W-02-08/11 Ridley Banks; *2011 PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference* on October 18 - 21, 2011. Cost: Registration: $199.00. (District)

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Chobany, Garman, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: Banks. Absent: Blue and Jones. The motion carried.

VI. Adjournment

Mrs. Garman made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. All were in favor.