FASD Ferndale Area School District

FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Meeting Minutes
Board Room
December 2, 2009

I. The December 2, 2009 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 Mrs. Penna 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: Ridley Banks, Greg Blue, Gary Eisenhuth, Edward Jones, Wayne Meekins, Barbara Penna, and Stephen Thompson. Absent: James Ford. Sandra Chobany - late.

Student Board Representatives: Present: Ashley Smith. Absent: Hannah Genovese.

Others in attendance were Carole Kakabar, John Kowal, Jennifer Reiter, Scott Shirley, Justin Zahorchak, Administrators; Attorney James Walsh, Solicitor; Susan Layton, Amy Schmidt, Teachers; Judith Virgin, School Nurse; Patricia Craig, Recording Secretary.

IV. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

V. Committees Agenda

1. Board

Election of Temporary President

Section 402 of the Pennsylvania School Code " . . . there shall be elected from the holdover members a temporary president, and the secretary of the Board shall act as secretary of such meeting."

BD-22-12/09 Mr. Blue made a motion to nominate Barbara Penna to serve as Temporary President of the Board.

BD-23-12/09 Mr. Blue made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to close nominations. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

BD-24-12/09 Mr. Blue made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to elect Barbara Penna as Temporary President of the Board. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

IBD-20-12/09 *Administered the Oath of Office to new Board Members. Section 321 of the Pennsylvania School Code (Ridley Banks, Edward Jones, Wayne Meekins, Stephen Thompson):*

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
COUNTY OF CAMBRIA

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and that I will discharge the duties of my office as School Director of the Ferndale Area School District, CAMBRIA County, with fidelity.

Election of President

BD-25-12/09 Mr. Jones made a motion to nominate Ridley Banks to serve as President of the Board.

BD-26-12/09 Mr. Blue made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to close nominations. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

BD-27-12/09 Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to elect Ridley Banks as President of the Board. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Election of Vice President

BD-28-12/09 Mr. Jones made a motion to nominate Barbara Penna to serve as Vice President of the Board.

BD-29-12/09 Mr. Meekins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to close nominations. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

BD-30-12/09 Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Blue, to elect Barbara Penna as Vice President of the Board. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Election of Board Secretary

BD-31-12/09 Mr. Blue made a motion to nominate Edward Jones as Secretary of Ferndale Area School Board (four-year term).

BD-32-12/09 Mr. Meekins made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to close nominations. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

BD-33-12/09 Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to elect Edward Jones as Secretary of the Ferndale Area School Board (four-year term). The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Election of PSBA Liaison

BD-34-12/09 Mrs. Penna made a motion to nominate Ridley Banks as PSBA Liaison.

BD-35-12/09 Mr. Blue made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to close nominations. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

BD-36-12/09 Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to elect Ridley Banks as PSBA Liaison. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

IBD-21-12/09 Bussing Costs - Craig Mlaker

BD-37-12/09

Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve the following Meetings Dates:

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Act 175 of the 1974 General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, notice is hereby given that the regular meetings of the Ferndale Area Board of Education will be held in the Board Room of the Ferndale Area Elementary School, 100 Dartmouth Avenue, Johnstown, PA 15905, on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. as follows, except for the months of May, November, and the annual Reorganization Meeting which will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2010:

BOARD MEETING

DAY	DATE
Wednesday	January 20, 2010
Wednesday	February 17, 2010 (Ash Wednesday)
Wednesday	March 17, 2010
Wednesday	April 21, 2010
Wednesday	May 12, 2010
Wednesday	June 16, 2010
Wednesday	August 18, 2010
Wednesday	September 15, 2010
Wednesday	October 20, 2010
Wednesday	November 10, 2010
Wednesday	December 8, 2010

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Mrs. Chobany arrived at 6:37 p.m.

BD-38-12/09 Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Blue, to approve the December 2, 2009 Board Meeting Consent Agenda items (BD-39-12/09 through IP-10-12/09).

BD-39-12/09 Approve the Minutes of the November 10, 2009 Board Meeting, as presented.

BD-40-12/09 Appoint the following Professional Education Committee for the Strategic Plan - due September 30, 2010):

Carole Kakabar	Administrator
Jennifer Reiter	Administrator
Scott Shirley	Administrator
Justin Zahorchak	Administrator
Patricia Craig	Support Staff
Sandi Chobany	Parent
Debi Balog	Community
Lori Beck	Educational Specialist
Lauren Birch	Teacher
Robert Boyle	Business Representative, Parent
Daniel Endler	Teacher
Rachelle Hrabosky	Teacher, Parent
Stephanie Mino	Teacher
Jessica Szymusiak	Teacher
Kathleen Wojnarowski	Educational Specialist

IBD-22-12/09 Received a letter from the Football Boosters thanking the Board and Administration for sponsoring an ad in the Ferndale Area Football Boosters Program.

F-13-12/09 Approve the November Treasurer's Report, as presented.

F-14-12/09 Approve the General Fund and Cafeteria Bills, as presented.

IF-12-12/09 Budget schedule review:

By January 1, 2010	Budget Requisitions Distributed to Principals/Staff
By February 12, 2010	General Supply/Kurtz Requisitions Due in Elementary/Secondary Office for Review by Principals
By February 19, 2010	General Supply/Kurtz Requisition Due in Business Office
By May 12, 2010	Preliminary Budget Printing and Availability for Public Inspection Preliminary Budget Public Notice
By June 16, 2010	Board Meeting -- "Adoption of Preliminary/Tentative Budget"

IF-13-12/09 Receipts and disbursements.

P-37-12/09 Approve the following to the substitute teachers list:

Linda Geddes-Olenik	Johnstown	Elementary

IP-10-12/09 Assignments

-- Jennifer Wolfe - Elementary Learning Support Aide

-- Deborah Pearce - Junior/Senior High School Learning Support Aide

-- Beverly Roberts - Junior/Senior High School Learning Support Aide

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

IBD-23-12/09 High School Highlights - Jennifer Reiter
Elementary Highlights - Justin Zahorchak
District Highlights - Carole Kakabar

IBD-24-12/09 Student Board Representatives Report.

2.	Buildings and Grounds
	None.
3.	Cafeteria
IC-01-12/09	Food Service Director retirement timeline to fill vacancy.
4.	Education
	None.
5.	Finance
F-15-12/09	Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to approve authorization of the Administration to submit grant proposals for federal and state government agencies and to all other funding sources for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.
F-16-12/09	Authorize a new set of Bank Depository signatures, if needed, for the newly-elected officers. (No action needed)
F-17-12/09	Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve the distribution of $5,000 to the Ferndale Area Club Hockey Team for the 2009-2010 school year. The funds can only be used to: first, purchase insurance and after payment of insurance, the remainder may be used to pay transportation expenses with the district's bus contractor, with the total distribution for insurance and transportation not to exceed an aggregate of $5,000, with the stipulation that proof of insurance is provided in the form of a declaration page showing the premiums were paid. Record vote for the motion: Banks, Blue, Chobany, Jones, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Eisenhuth and Ford. The motion carried.

F-18-12/09

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to 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 2010-2011 school year within its index to provide the necessary revenue to meet the proposed expenditures for the 2010-2011 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 index of 4.5 percent.

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.

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

IF-13-12/09 Review of Fund Balance - John Kowal.

IF-14-12/09 Received an Audit Report from J. H. Williams & Co., LLP, Kingston, PA, for the Earned Income Tax collected by the Central Tax Bureau of Pennsylvania, Inc. The audit concluded "Such information in the accompanying statement of cash receipts and disbursements related to tax collection activities has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole."

6. Student Activities

ST-43-12/09 Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to approve posting (advertise, if necessary) of the following coaching positions for the 2010-11 school year:

-- Head (1) /Assistant (4) Varsity Football Coaches

-- Head (1) /Assistant (1) Junior High Football Coaches

-- Head (1) /Assistant (1) 7th/8th Football Coaches

-- Head (1) /Assistant (1) Junior High Girls' Basketball Coaches

-- Head (1) /Assistant (1) Varsity Girls' Volleyball Coaches

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

7. Workshops/Conferences

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

W-10-12/09 Jennifer Reiter; Justin Zahorchak; Karen Soohy, Classroom for the Future Coach; *Standard Align System* in Hershey on December 7, 8, 9, 10, 2009. Cost: Meals: $175.00. Shared Travel: $221.20. Total Cost: $396.20. (District)

W-11-12/09	Jennifer Reiter; Janice Antal (1), Chemistry Teacher; Nola Barton (1), Librarian; Lauren Birch (1), Science Teacher; Jenna Ricci (1), Biology Teacher; *Introduction to Video Conference Integration* in Richland on December 14, 2009. Cost: Registration for each: $50.00. Shared Travel: $5.00. Substitute for four: $320.00. Total Cost: $575.00. (Title IIA & District)
W-12-12/09	Stephen Clawson (1); Adam Hale; *Mizuno Baseball Clinic* in Pittsburgh on January 15, 16, 2010. Registration for each: $70.00. Lodging for both: $102.00. Meals for each: $50.00. Travel: $88.00. Substitute: $80.00. Total Cost: $510.00. (District)
W-13-12/09	Karen Soohy, Classroom for the Future; Jeffrey Detwiler (1), Joshua Mottillo (1), Business, Computer & Information Technology Teachers; *Pennsylvania Education Technology Exposition and Conference* in Hershey on February 21, 22, 23, 2010. Cost: Registration for each: $242.00. Lodging: $750.00. Meals: $275.00. Travel: $280.00. Substitutes for two for three days: $480.00. Total Cost: $2,511.00. (Title IIA & District)
W-14-12/09	Lauren Birch (2), Science Teacher; Jenna Ricci (2), Biology/ Environmental Science; Rachelle Hrabosky (2), Grade 4 Teacher; Veronica Shorto (1), Grade 6 Teacher; *2010 National Science Teachers Conference* in Philadelphia on March 18, 19, 2010. Cost: Registration for each $269.00. Shared Lodging: $700.00. Meals: $200.00. Travel: $220.00. Substitutes for four for two days: $640.00. Total Cost: $2,836.00. (Title IIB)

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

The Board took a short recess at 7:27 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 7:32 p.m.

The Board went into an Executive Session for personnel and finance at 7:32 p.m. The Executive Session ended at 10:08 p.m.

8. Personnel

P-38-12/09 Mr. Blue made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve William Nemeth, Johnstown, as a Maintenance Technician/Supervisor at a salary of $33,500 with a 90-day probationary period, effective December 7, 2009. Record vote for the motion: Banks, Blue, Chobany, Jones, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Eisenhuth and Ford. The motion carried.

F-19-12/09 Mrs. Chobany made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to modify the agenda and add a motion to provide a five-year extension to the current contract with Mlaker Transportation specifying a floor of 2% and a cap of 4% on the CPI (Consumer Price Index) effective for the 2010-2011 year, contingent upon new buses being purchased for the 2010-2011 school year, with the language being acceptable to the Business Manager and Solicitor, including but not limited to billing software and security cameras. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

F-20-12/09 Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to provide a five-year extension to the current contract with Mlaker Transportation specifying a floor of 2% and a cap of 4% on the CPI (Consumer Price Index) effective for the 2010-2011 year, contingent upon new buses being purchased for the 2010-2011 school year, with the language being acceptable to the Business Manager and Solicitor, including but not limited to billing software and security cameras. Record vote for the motion: Banks, Blue, Chobany, Jones, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Eisenhuth and Ford. The motion carried.

VI. Adjournment

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 p.m. All were in favor.