FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Meeting
January 21, 2026

I. The January 21, 2026 Board Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board was held virtually. 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 evening 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 the FASD website under Board Policies.

IV. Roll Call: Present: Susan Boyle, Barry Himes, James McKendree, Jason Moschgat, Justin Pavic, Richard Pavic, Kimberly Washington, Julian Wright. Absent: Kimberly Kinsey.

Others in attendance were Jeffrey Boyer, David Gates, William Brotz, Administrators; Kaitlyn Maddy, Superintendent's Secretary; Patricia Craig, Recording Secretary.

V. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

Susan Boyle and Lynn Bennett thanked Patti Craig for her years of service. Lynn Bennett emailed contact information for new members.

VI. Committees Agenda

1. Board

IBD-07-01/26 Student Board Representatives Report.

IBD-08-01/26 January is School Director Recognition Month. (Jeffrey Boyer)

Mr. R. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Washington, to approve BD-38-01/26 through BD-40-01/26.

BD-38-01/26 Approve the January 21, 2026 Board Meeting Consent Agenda (BD-39-01/26 through W-50-01/26).

BD-39-01/26 Approve the Minutes of the December 3, 2025 Special Board Meeting, December 3, 2025 Board Meeting, December 23, 2025 Special Board Meeting, as presented.

BG-12-01/26 Approve the following as bus drivers for Mlaker Transportation, Inc. for the 2025-2026 school year:

-- William Blasko, Jr.
-- Hilary Berkebile

BG-13-01/26 Approve the request of "Ferndale PTO," Responsible Officer Katrina Kauert, to use the Elementary Gymnasium, tables and chairs for Someone Special Dance-Girls, February 28, 2026, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, providing that no conflicts occur with District programs. (Received insurance and completed use of facilities form certifying compliance with clearance requirements.)

BG-14-01/26 Approve the request of "Ferndale PTO," Responsible Officer Katrina Kauert, to use the Elementary Gymnasium, tables and chairs for Someone Special Dance-Boys, March 14, 2026, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, providing that no conflicts occur with District programs, pending receipt of certificate of liability insurance. (Received completed use of facilities form certifying compliance with clearance requirements.)

IE-23-01/26 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 Tuesday, February 24, 2026 and runs until Tuesday, April 21, 2026, from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. The District will provide transportation for the students.

E-21-02/26 Grant tenure to Alyssa Potasnik, Elementary Teacher and Melanie Duffy-Engel, Music Teacher. They have completed three years of satisfactory service, the Induction Program, and have earned the status of permanent employment within the Ferndale Area School District, on a regular basis.

F-14-01/26 Approve the November and December Treasurer's Reports.

F-15-01/26 Approve the General Fund and Cafeteria Bills, as presented.

IF-14-01/26 Receipts and disbursements.

IF-15-01/26 Received a letter from Clayton Carroll, PDE, approving Ferndale Area School District's Single Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 2025 as being substantially in compliance with 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F regulations and other relevant federal and Commonwealth policy.

ST-35-01/26 Approve 1 student participation in the PMEA District Chorus Festival at Richland High School on January 7-9, 2026. Registration: $89.00. Director's Food: $80.00. Director's Mileage: $60.00. Substitute for two days: $200.00. Total Cost: $429.00. (District)

ST-36-01/26 Approve 1 student participation in the PMEA District Jazz/Modern Band Festival at Greater Johnstown High School on January 15-16, 2026. Registration: $85.00. Director's Food: $80.00. Substitute for two days: $200.00. Total Cost: $365.00. (District)

ST-37-01/26 Approve 1 student participation in the PMEA District Band Festival at Cambria Heights High School on February 4-6,2026. Cost: Registration: $75.00. Lodging Student: $148.00. Director's Food: $80.00. Director's Mileage: $60.00. Substitute for two days: $200.00. Total Cost: $563.00. (District)

ST-38-01/26 Approve the Forensics Team (6 students) participation in Forensics Meet at Richland High School, January 13, 2026. Cost: Transportation: $250.00. (District)

ST-39-01/26 Approve the Forensics Team (6 students) participation in Forensics Meet at Conemaugh Township Area School District, February 3, 2026. Cost: Transportation: $250.00. (District)

ST-40-01/26 Approve the Reading Team (8 students) participation in Reading Competition at Forest Hills High School, April 15, 2026. Cost: Transportation: $260.00. (District)

ST-41-01/26 Approve the 6th Grade Band Members (3 students) participation in Bandfest at Portage Area High School, April 10, 2026. Cost: Registration: $90.00. Shared Transportation: $75.00. Substitute: $100.00. Total Cost: $265.00. (District)

ST-42-01/26 Approve Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4 class (30 students) field trip to Pitt National Aviary on March 19, 2026. Cost: Tickets per student: $14.00. Transportation: $650.00. Substitute Nurses: $240.00. Total Cost: $1,198.00. (District)

IST-03-01/26 Received a $200.00 donation from Conemaugh Valley Veterans.

Approve the following workshops/conferences:

W-38-01/26 Michelle Sendek, Elementary Art Teacher, *Breakout Edu*, IU8 Altoona, December 16, 2025. Cost: Registration: $50.00. Mileage: $64.40. Substitute: $100.00. Total Cost: $214.40 (District)

W-39-01/26 Sutton Barron, Director of Special Education, *Gifted Education: Compliance vs. Best Practices, Virtual*, January 6, 2026. No Cost to the District.

W-40-01/26 Leigh Ann Dunn, Special Education Teacher, *Gifted Ed for Admin.*, Virtual, January 6, 2026. No Cost to the District.

W-41-01/26 Leigh Ann Dunn, Special Education Teacher, *Explore Everest*, IU8 Altoona, January 8, 2026. Cost: Meals: $15. Mileage: $57.40. Substitute: $100.00 Total Cost: $172.40 (District)

W-42-01/26 Jennifer Gorzelsky, Elementary Reading Specialist, *Winning With Your MTSS Framework Series*, IU8 EDC Duncansville, January 7, February 5, and March 4, 2026. Cost: Meals: $45.00. Mileage: $151.20. Total Cost: $196.20 (District)

W-43-01/26 Leigh Ann Dunn, Special Education Teacher, *STEM Network*, N. American Hoganas, Penn Machine, Martin Baker, January 13, 2026. Cost: Meals: $15.00 Substitute: $100.00 Total Cost: $115.00 (District)

W-44-01/26 Madison Crum, Autistic/Emotional Support Teacher; Molly Pilcher, Chemistry Teacher; *PaPBS 2026 Coaches Day: Tiered Behavior Supports: Coaching Lasting Change*, Virtual, January 15, 2026. Substitute for two: $200.00 Total Cost: $200.00 (District)

W-45-01/26 Amy Mykut, Elementary Principal; Maeve Hrabosky, MTSS Coordinator; Jennifer Gorzelsky, Reading Specialist; Sutton Barron, Director of Special Education, *Improving School Performance Conference*, Pittsburgh, January 25-28, 2026. Cost: Registration for two: $525.00. Registration for two: $150.00 each. Meals: $78.00 each. Mileage: $201.60. Total Cost: $1,863.60 (Title I)

W-46-01/26 Judith Virgin, School Nurse, *Penn State Health Children's School Nurse Conference 2026 (Virtual)*, February 16, 2026. No Cost to District.

W-47-01/26 Sutton Barron, Director of Special Education, *PDE Making a Difference*, Hershey, February 25-27, 2026. Cost: Registration: $215.00. Lodging: $352.98. Meals: $141.00. Mileage and Tolls: $241.50. Total Cost: $950.48. (District)

W-48-01/26 Kimberly Karcher, *Pennsylvania Association of FCS State Standards*, April 10, 11, 2026. IUP. Cost: Registration: $195.00. Mileage: $40.60. Substitute: $100.00. Total Cost: $335.60. (District)

W-49-01/26 Madison Crum, Autistic/Emotional Support Teacher, *IU8 Secondary Transition Network Day*, GJCTC IU8, March 19, 2026. Substitute: $100.00 Total Cost: $100.00 (District)

W-50-01/26 Sutton Barron, Director of Special Education, *PATTAN: Inside the Classroom, Virtual*, March 25, 2026. No Cost to the District.

BD-40-01/26 Reaffirm the Principles for Governance and Leadership. (will reaffirm at the February 25, 2026 Board Meeting)

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, McKendree, Moschgat, J. Pavic, R. Pavic, Washington, Wright. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Kinsey. The motion carried.

BD-41-01/26 Appointed, if needed, _____to serve on the Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 Board, to represent Region VII (Conemaugh Valley, Ferndale Area, and Forest Hills) from July 1, 2026 to June 20, 2029. (No action taken)

2. Buildings and Grounds

None.

3. Cafeteria

None.

4. Education

Mrs. Washington made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wright, to approve E-22-01/26 through E-26-01/26.

E-22-01/26 Approve entering into an Agreement with Andrew Klein, Special Education Consultant, Lancaster, PA, if special education services are needed.

E-23-01/26 Approve a Master Service Agreement with Gray Skies Blue LLC/dba/Silver Lining ABA, Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) Statement of Work #3001 at an approximate cost of $3,475.20, and Behavioral Health Technician (BHT) Statement of Work #3002 at an approximate cost of $662.24.

E-24-01/26 Approve a Memorandum of Agreement with Children's Behavioral Health, LLC DBA Clarvida for services in their Partial Hospitalization Program.

E-25-01/26 Approve Agreements with Ignite Education Solutions, Johnstown, for Aides / Classroom Monitor for 2025-2026 school year:

-- Special Education Aide, EL – Haylee Chernicky
-- PreK Counts Aide, EL – Gabrielle Riffle
-- Classroom Monitor – Michael Keeney

E-26-01/26 Approve the Revised 2025-2026 FASD PreK-12 Academic Calendar:

-- Change Early Dismissal for In-Service on May 8, 2026 to May 1, 2026

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, McKendree, Moschgat, J. Pavic, R. Pavic, Washington, Wright. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Kinsey. The motion carried.

IE-21-01/26 A discussion by Justin Ogline regarding the Technology Students Association (TSA) Chapter for next year was held at the January 14, 2026 Board Workshop

IE-22-01/26 A discussion by Christina Fosbrink to replace the current Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality course to Intro to User-Centered/User Interface Design for the second semester 2025-2026 school year was held at the January 14, 2026 Board Workshop.

Mr. R. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Himes, to approve E-27-01/26 through E-33-01/26.

E-27-01/26 Approve the creation of Ferndale Technology Students Association (TSA) Chapter for the 2026-2027 school year, as presented.

E-28-01/26 Create extra pay for extra duty positions:

-- TSA Advisor at the $1,000.00 Tier
-- TSA Assistant Advisor at the $750.00 Tier

E-29-01/26 Approve Justin Ogline as the TSA Advisor for the 2026-2027 school year.

E-30-01/26 Approve the creation of an Activity Account for Funding TSA, Forensics, and Shop, as presented.

E-31-01/26 Approve the creation of an Online Student-Run Literary Journal, as presented.

E-32-01/26 Approve the film, Saving Private Ryan (1998) R, to be viewed in its entirety in The Magic of Movies Course, as presented.

E-33-01/26 Approve replacing the current Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality course to Intro to User-Centered/User Interface Design for the second semester 2025-2026 school year, as presented.

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, McKendree, Moschgat, J. Pavic, R. Pavic, Washington, Wright. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Kinsey. The motion carried.

IE-24-01/26 District-wide Highlights (William Brotz, Amy Mykut, Bernard Conway, Sutton Barron, Adam Barbe)

IE-25-01/26 GJCTC Joint Operating Committee Highlights (Richard Pavic)

5. Finance

IF-16-01/26 Audit Report presentation by Sarah Sernell, Kotzan, CPA was held at the January 14, 2026 Board Workshop.

Mrs. Washington made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wright, to approve F-16-01/26 through F-19-01/26.

F-16-01/26 Approve the Ferndale Area School District's Management Discussion and Analysis Report for the fiscal year 2024-2025. (The MD&A is part of the 2024-2025 Independent Auditor Report. Complete 2024-2025 Single Audit Review is available upon request.)

F-17-01/26 Approve an agreement between Montgomery County Intermediate Unit and Ferndale Area School District for Real Time Validation from January 22, 2026 through January 21, 2027. Cost: $1,014.00.

F-18-01/26 Approve to authorize the Superintendent and the Business Manager to make additional payments to the Healthcare Consortium, as needed, to ensure the District meets its financial obligations and maintains the fiscal stability of the Consortium. Such Payments shall be made based on current cash flow needs, monthly claims trends, and other relevant financial data provided by the Consortium. Note payments would occur across the Consortium with all participating schools.

F-19-01/26 Approve an agreement with H.F. Lenz to provide an HVAC assessment for the Elementary School to be used in applying for the Public School Facilities Improvement Grant in the amount of $3,500.

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, McKendree, Moschgat, J. Pavic, R. Pavic, Washington, Wright. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Kinsey. The motion carried.

IF-17-01/26 Health Insurance Discussion (David Gates)

6. Personnel

Mr. Wright made a motion, seconded by Mr. J. Pavic, to approve P-23-01/26 and P-24-01/26.

P-23-01/26 Approve the retirement resignation of William Brotz, Assistant Superintendent/ Junior Senior High School Principal, effective August 1, 2026.

P-24-01/26 Approve to post and/or advertise the following:

-- Junior Senior High School Principal
-- Certified School Nurse

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, McKendree, Moschgat, J. Pavic, R. Pavic, Washington, Wright. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Kinsey. The motion carried.

7. Student Activities

Mr. R. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Himes, to approve ST-43-01/26 through ST-47-01/26.

ST-43-01/26 Approve the following as Fitness Center Monitors for the 2025-2026 school year at a stipend of $10.00 per hour, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork:

-- Durell Hutzell-Ellis
-- Jessica Staghart
-- James Allison

ST-44-01/26 Approve sports officials fee increases for 2025-2026 as presented.

IST-04-01/26 Junior High Boys/Girls Cross Country discussion by Stephen Clawson was held at the January 14, 2026 Board Workshop.

ST-45-01/26 Approve the creation of Junior High Boys/Girls Cross Country for the 2026-2027 school year, as presented.

ST-46-01/26 Approve creating and advertising for Junior High Cross Country Head Coach and Assistant Coach positions.

ST-47-01/26 Approve Junior High Cross Country Coaches Contracts:

-- Head Coach Base Salary: $2,575.00
-- Assistant Coach Base Salary: $1,802.50

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, McKendree - (ST-43-01/26, ST-44-01/26), Moschgat, J. Pavic, R. Pavic, Washington, Wright. Against the motion: McKendree - (ST-45-01/26, ST-46-01/26, ST-47-01/26). Abstained: None. Absent: Kinsey. The motion carried.

Mrs. Washington made a motion, seconded by Mr. J. Pavic, to approve ST-48-01/26 through ST-53-01/26.

ST-48-01/26 Post and/or advertise for an Assistant Junior High Girls' Softball Coach for the 2025-2026 season.

ST-49-01/26 Post and/or advertise for the following 2026-2027 Coaching positions:

-- Head Junior High Girls' Volleyball Coach
-- Assistant Junior High Girls' Volleyball Coach
-- Assistant Varsity Cross Country Coach (only if JH XC is approved)

Approve the following coaches for the 2026-2027 season, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork:

ST-50-01/26 *Jason Ozog, Johnstown, Head Varsity Golf Coach. Salary is based on the Coaches Contract.

ST-51-01/26 Alexander Hogue, Meyersdale, Head Varsity Cross Country Coach. Salary is based on the Coaches Contract.

ST-52-01/26 Rebecca Tallari, Johnstown, Head Varsity Girls' Volleyball Coach. Salary is based on the Coaches Contract.

ST-53-01/26 Erin Gray, Johnstown, Assistant Varsity Girls' Volleyball Coach. Salary is based on the Coaches Contract.

Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, McKendree - (ST-50-01/26, ST-51-01/26), Moschgat, J. Pavic, R. Pavic, Washington, Wright. Against the motion: McKendree - (ST-52-01/26, ST-53-01/26). Abstained: None. Absent: Kinsey. The motion carried.

8. Workshops/Conferences

None.

The February Workshop Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18, 2026. The February Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 25, 2026.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. R. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. J. Pavic to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 p.m. All in favor.