FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Meeting
February 25, 2026

I. The February 25, 2026 Board Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board was held in the Board Room of the Ferndale Area School District, 100 Dartmouth Avenue, Johnstown. The Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Boyle at 6:01 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.

Please note Policy No. 903 Public Participation in Board Meetings is posted on the bulletin board in the Board Room.

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

Others in attendance were Jeffrey Boyer, David Gates, William Brotz, Administrators; Lynn Bennett, Stephanie Mino, Christy Sweeney, FAEA/Resident; Joyce Leberknight, Resident; Susan Sheesley, PSEA Retired; Shay Liebig, UPJ Student; Josh Byers, Tribune Democrat; Kaitlyn Maddy, Recording Secretary.

V. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

VI. Committees Agenda

1. Board

IBD-09-02/26 Student Board Representatives Report.

IBD-10-02/26 Review the following policies. (Jeffrey Boyer)

-- Revised Policy No. 204 Attendance
-- Revised Policy No. 218.1 Weapons
-- Revised Policy No. 222 Tobacco and Vaping Products
-- Revised Policy No. 227 Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
-- Revised Policy No. 233 Suspension and Expulsion
-- Revised Policy No. 237 Electronic Devices
-- Revised Policy No. 254 Educational Opportunity for Military Children
-- Revised Policy No. 610 Purchase Subject to Bid Quotation
-- Revised Policy No. 611 Purchases Budgeted

-- Revised Policy No. 805.1 Relations With Law Enforcements Agencies
-- Revised Policy No. 805.2 School Security Personnel

IBD-11-02/26 Distribution of Statements of Financial Interest Forms – Board Members and Administrators – Due back to Kaitlyn Maddy as soon as possible.

Mr. Himes made a motion, seconded by Mr. R. Pavic, to approve BD-42-02/26 through BD-45-02/26.

BD-42-02/26 Approve as read the First Reading of the following policies:

-- Revised Policy No. 204 Attendance
-- Revised Policy No. 218.1 Weapons
-- Revised Policy No. 222 Tobacco and Vaping Products
-- Revised Policy No. 227 Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
-- Revised Policy No. 233 Suspension and Expulsion
-- Revised Policy No. 237 Electronic Devices
-- Revised Policy No. 254 Educational Opportunity for Military Children
-- Revised Policy No. 610 Purchase Subject to Bid Quotation
-- Revised Policy No. 611 Purchases Budgeted
-- Revised Policy No. 805.1 Relations With Law Enforcements Agencies
-- Revised Policy No. 805.2 School Security Personnel

BD-43-02/26 Approve the February 25, 2026 Board Meeting Consent Agenda (BD-44-02/26 through W-60-02/26).

BD-44-02/26 Approve the Minutes of the January 21, 2026 Meeting, as presented.

BG-15-12/26 Approve the following bus drivers for Mlaker Transportation, Inc. for the 2025-2026 school year:

-- Douglas McMahon
-- Donald Zimmerman

BG-16-02/26 Approve the request of "Ferndale Area PTO", Responsible Officer Katrina Kauert, to use the Elementary Gymnasium for an Easter Egg Hunt on March 28,2026 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm., providing that no conflicts occur with District programs. (Received insurance and completed use of facilities form certifying compliance with clearance requirements.)

IE-26-02/26 The following has been assigned as student teacher (UPJ) at the Ferndale Area High School January 2026 through April 2026

Student Teacher	Cooperating Teacher	Subject
Vincent Gongloff	Ronald Lasko	Social Studies

F-14-02/26 Approve the January Treasurer's Report.

F-15-02/26 Approve the General Fund and Cafeteria Bills, as presented.

IF-18-02/26 Receipts and disbursements.

IF-19-02/26 The Community Foundation for the Alleghenies FASD Endowment Fund donor statement balance (October 01, 2025 to December 31, 2025) is $4,871.76.

IP-03-02/26 Employee #25267385 will be on a Family Medical Leave of Absence from approximately August 20, 2026 through November 12, 2026.

ST-54-02/26 Approve 12 student's participation in the Elementary Lego League at Central Cambria High School on January 31, 2026. Cost: Registration included in Membership paid in September 2025. (District)

ST-55-02/26 Approve 5 student's participation in Forensics Meet at Richland High School on February 13, 2026. Cost: Transportation: $305.00 (District)

ST-56-02/26 Approve 35 student's participation in FAHS Marching Band Performance at Tomahawks Game on February 13, 2026. Cost: Transportation: $200.00. (District)

ST-57-02/26 Approve 1 student participation in the PMEA Regional Chorus Festival at Forest Hills High School on February 18-20, 2026. Registration: $78.00. Director's Folder: $16.00. Director's Food: $80.00. Director's Mileage: $40.00. Substitute for two days: $200.00. Total Cost: $414.00. (District)

ST-58-02/26 Approve 4 student's participation in Math Counts at UPJ on February 21, 2026. Cost: Registration: $90.00 (District)

ST-59-02/26 Approve 5 student's participation in Forensics Meet at St. Francis University on March 2, 2026. Cost: Transportation: $505.00. Substitute: $100.00. Total Cost: $605.00 (District)

ST-60-02/26 Approve 5 student's participation in Forensics Meet at St. Francis University on March 3, 2026 (dependent upon qualification). Cost: Transportation: $505.00 Substitute: $100.00. Total Cost: $605.00 (District)

ST-61-02/26 Approve 1 student participation in the PMEA Region Orchestra at North Allegheny High School on March 5-7, 2026. Registration: $105.00. Transportation: $50.00. Student Hotel: $48.00. Director's Hotel: $352.00. Director's Food: $80.00. Director's Mileage: $125.00. Substitute for 2 days: $200.00. Total Cost: $960.00 (District)

ST-62-02/26 Approve Senior Class Trip to Hershey Park on May 8, 2026. Cost: Transportation: $1,875.00. Substitutes for two: $200.00. Total Cost: $2,075.00 (District) - Other expenses paid through donations.

ST-63-02/26 Approve 4 Junior Class Officers trip to Penn State Health Golisano Children's Hospital on April 21, 2026. Transportation: Drivers Ed. Car.

IST-05-02/26 4 Junior Class students' participating at Penn State Thon on February 21-22, 2026. No cost to the District.

Approve the following workshops/conferences:

W-51-02/26 Christina Fosbrink, Teacher, *Using AI tools to Enhance Student Learning & Increase Teacher Productivity*, April 7, 2026, Virtual. Cost: Registration: $295.00. Total Cost: $295.00. (District)

W-52-02/26 Lori McGough, Food Service Director, *PRFSD Monthly Meeting*, February 13, 2026, Pittsburgh. No Cost to District.

W-53-02/26 Brenda Hart, Payroll Clerk, *PSERS Training for New Payer Express Payment System*, February 23, 2026, Virtual. No Cost to District.

W-54-02/26 Amy Mykut, Elementary Principal, *PA Curriculum Leadership Summit*, February 23, 2026, Hershey. Cost: Mileage: $79.73. Total Cost: $79.73 (District)

W-55-02/26 Judith Virgin, School Nurse, *PASNAP 2026: Advocate, Innovate, Elevate*, March 20-22. Cost: Registration: $450.00. Lodging: $298.00. Meals: $20.00. Mileage: $93.80. Total Cost: $861.80 (District)

W-56-02/26 Michelle Sendek, Elementary Art Teacher, *Art Network*, February 12, 2026, IU8 Richland. Cost: Substitute: $100.00 (District)

W-57-02/26 Amy Mykut, Elementary Principal; Maeve Hrabosky, MTSS Coordinator; Jennifer Gorzelsky, Reading Specialist; Sutton Barron, Director of Special Education, *2026 PDE Data Summit*, Hershey, March 30th – April 1st, 2026. Cost for four: Registration: $1,200.00. Lodging: $954.00. Meals: $400.00. Mileage and Tolls: $308.60. Total Cost: $2,862.60 (District)

W-58-02/26 Brenda Hart, Payroll Clerk, *School ERP Pro – PA On-Site User Group Meeting*, April 21, 2026, IU8 Ebensburg. Cost: Mileage: $20.00 (District)

W-59-02/26 Theresa Wolf, Accounts Payable/ Accounts Receivable, *School ERP Pro – PA On-Site User Group Meeting*, April 22, 2026, IU8 Ebensburg. Cost: Mileage: $21.75 (District)

W-60-02/26 Madison Crum, Autistic/Emotional Support Teacher, *Evidence Based Supports for Anxious Learners,* March 4, 2026, Virtual. No Cost to District.

BD-45-02/26 Reaffirm the Principles for Governance and Leadership.

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

2. Buildings and Grounds

None.

3. Cafeteria

None.

4. Education

IE-27-02/26 A discussion by William Brotz regarding potential Penn Highlands Dual Enrollment Courses.

Mr. J. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wright, to approve E-34-02/26 through E-36-02/26.

E-34-02/26 Approve the 2026-2027 Ferndale Area School District PreK-12 Academic Calendar, as presented.

E-35-02/26 Approve Extended School Year Agreement with Alternative Community Resource Program, Inc. to provide services for Ferndale Area School District special education students diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Program services shall commence on June 23, 2026 and terminate on July 30, 2026.

E-36-02/26 Approve, as presented, the following 2026-2027 Junior-Senior High School New and Changed Courses:

-- Creative Engineering (Tech Ed), (Semester, Grades 9-12)
-- Net Games (Physical Education), (Semester, Grades TBD)
-- History of Law (Social Studies), (Semester, Grades TBD)
-- The History of Medicine & Bioethics (Social Studies), (Semester, Grades TBD)
-- 7th Grade Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS), (Semester, Grade 7)
-- Independent Living (FCS), (Semester, Grades TBD)
-- US History II (Social Studies), (Semester, Grades TBD)
-- Current Events (9-12) (Social Studies), (Semester, Grades 9-12)
-- Sports, Statistics & Data Science (Math), (Semester, Grades 7-8)
-- English Composition (English), (Semester, Grades 10-12)

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

IE-28-02/26 District-wide Highlights (William Brotz, Amy Mykut, Bernard Conway, Sutton Barron, Adam Barbe)

IE-29-02/26 GJCTC Joint Operating Committee Highlights (Richard Pavic)

5. Finance

IF-20-02/26 Healthcare presentation by Nick Tranguch and Camilly Russo of BSI Corp. was held at the February 18, 2026 Board Workshop.

IF-21-02/26 Finance Discussion (Dave Gates)

Mrs. Washington made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kinsey, to approve F-16-02/26 through F-24-02/26.

F-16-02/26 Approve the tentatively adopted 2026-2027 Greater Johnstown Area Career and Technology Center/AVTS Joint Operating Committee Projected Secondary Budget.

Projected Secondary Budget:	$8,014,781.39

F-17-02/26 Approve the tentatively adopted 2026-2027 Joint Operating Committee Greater Johnstown Area Career and Technology Center/AVTS Adult/Workforce Development and Grants and Non-Secondary Funded Budgets, as follows:

Adult/Workforce Development Budget	$1,899,798.08
Grants and Non-Secondary Funded Budgets	$280,000.00

F-18-02/26 Approve 2025-2026 grant agreement with Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 for IDEA-B Project #062-26-0008 CDFA #84.027 for $131,139.62. The District allocation for IDEA funding.

F-19-02/26 Approve Intermediate Unit 1 Consortium License Purchase Agreement beginning July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029 for SentinelOne Workstation and Server License.

F-20-02/26 Approve a service agreement with Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 for a professional learning session, for 25 high school teachers, to explore how AI can be used as a teaching partner and teammate.

F-21-02/26 Approve the following Resolution:

Be it RESOLVED, that the Ferndale Area School District (Name of Applicant) of Cambria (Name of County) hereby request a Public School Facility Improvement grant of $ 4,299,555.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for HVAC, Boilers, and Roof for the Elementary School.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant does hereby designate Jeffrey Boyer, Superintendent (Name and Title) and David Gates, Business Manager (Name and Title) as the official(s) to execute all documents and agreements between the Ferndale Area School District (Name of Applicant) and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

I, Barry Himes , duly qualified Secretary of the Ferndale Area School District (Name of Applicant), Cambria (Name of County), PA, hereby certify that the forgoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by a majority vote of the Ferndale Area School District Board of Education (Governing Body) at a regular meeting held February 25th, 2026 (Date) and said Resolution has been recorded in the Minutes of the Ferndale Area School District (Applicant) and remains in effect as of this date.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I affix my hand and attach the seal of the Ferndale Area School District (Applicant), this 25th day of February, 2026.

Ferndale Area School District
Name of Applicant

Cambria
County

Barry Himes
Secretary

F-22-02/26 Approve posting an RFP via the PEPPM Mini-bid process for renewal of Meraki Licensing and additional network switching infrastructure and other necessary technology. The project would be eligible to use money from the District's Category 2 E-Rate funding which begins with a total of $121,748.28. E-Rate funding would pay for 85% of the project and the District would be responsible for the remaining 15%. This is year 1 of 5 for the funding cycle and the money would be forfeited if it is not allocated toward any projects.

F-23-02/26 Approve 2025-2026 grant agreement with Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 for IDEA-B, Section 619 Project #131-25-0008 CFDA #84.173A for $1,428.00. The District allocation for IDEA Funding.

F-24-02/26 Approve the 2026-2027 fiscal year health insurance proposal by BSI Corporate Benefits through the Public Schools Health Insurance Cooperative (PSHIC) and to authorize the District Superintendent and Business Manager to execute all required plan documents and agreements, contingent upon final review by the District's solicitor, with coverage effective July 1, 2026 and continuing health insurance coverage with Highmark as the insurance carrier for eligible employees and their dependents in accordance with District employment agreements.

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

6. Personnel

Mr. Wright made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Washington, to approve P-25-02/26 through P-28-02/26.

P-25-02/26 Approve the resignation of Christina Madden, High School Secretary, effective February 12, 2026.

P-26-02/26 Approve to post and/or advertise the following:

-- High School Secretary

P-27-02/26 Approve Jennifer Gorzelsky as Homebound Instructor for an Elementary Student starting February 2, 2026 for approximately 5 weeks. Five hours per week at Homebound rate.

P-28-02/26 Approve to employ Samantha Collins, Johnstown, as High School Secretary, as presented, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork.

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

The Board went into an Executive Session at 6:20 p.m. to discuss personnel. The Executive Session ended at 6:49 p.m. and the public meeting resumed.

7. Student Activities

Mr. Wright made a motion, seconded by Mr. J. Pavic, to approve ST-64-02/26 through ST-70-02/26.

Approve the following coach for the 2025-2026 season, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork:

ST-64-02/26 *James Allison, Johnstown, as a Volunteer Junior High Baseball Coach.

ST-65-02/26 Adam Hale, Johnstown, as Junior High Softball Assistant Coach. Salary is based on the Coaches Contract.

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

ST-66-02/26 *Gwen Gaviola, Johnstown, Junior High Cross-Country Head Coach. Salary is based on the Coaches Contract.

ST-67-02/26 *Mallory Peters, Ligonier, Junior High Cross-Country Assistant Coach. Salary is based on the Coaches Contract.

ST-68-02/26 *Jessie Mullen, Johnstown, Volunteer Varsity Cross Country Coach.

ST-69-02/26 *Giuseppe Tallari, Johnstown, Volunteer Varsity Volleyball Coach.

ST-70-01/26 Post and/or advertise for the following 2026-2027 Coaching positions:

-- Boys Varsity Basketball Head Coach
-- Boys Varsity Basketball Assistant Coach
-- Girls' Varsity Basketball Head Coach
-- Girls' Varsity Basketball Assistant Coach
-- Boys' Junior High Basketball Head Coach
-- Boys' Junior High Basketball Assistant Coach
-- Girls' Junior High Basketball Head Coach
-- Girls' Junior High Basketball Assistant Coach
-- Varsity Swimming Head Coach (Volunteer Position)
-- Varsity Cheerleading Head Coach (Football and Basketball Seasons)
-- Varsity Cheerleading Assistant Coach (Football and Basketball Seasons)
-- Junior High Cheerleading Head Coach (Football and Basketball Seasons)
-- Junior High Cheerleading Head Coach (Football and Basketball Seasons)

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

8. Workshops/Conferences

None.

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

VII. Adjournment

Mr. J. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. R. Pavic to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 p.m. All in favor.