FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2026

I. The April 22, 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 6:00 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 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, James McKendree, Jason Moschgat, Richard Pavic, Kimberly Washington, Julian Wright. Absent: Justin Pavic

Others in attendance were Jeffrey Boyer, David Gates, William Brotz, Administrators; Lynn Bennett, Stephanie Mino, Sarah Riffle, FAEA/Resident; Jennifer Priest, FAEA Retired; Susan Sheesley, PSEA Retired; Kaitlyn Maddy, Recording Secretary.

V. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

Sarah Riffle, FAEA/Resident, addressed the Board regarding the Athletic Director and Athletic Trainer.

VI. Committees Agenda

IBD-14-04/26 Student Board Representatives Report.

1. Board

Mr. R. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moschgat, to approve BD-50-04/26.

BD-50-04/26 Appoint Julian Wright and Susan Boyle as voting delegate(s) to represent Ferndale Area School District for PSBA Delegate Assembly on Saturday, November 7, 2026. (Can appoint two voting delegates)

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

Mrs. Washington made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wright, to approve BD-51-04/26 through BD-54-04/26

BD-51-04/26 Renew 2026-2027 PSBA Membership at a cost of $7,551.00.

BD-52-04/26 Approve the April 22, 2026 Board Meeting Consent Agenda items (BD-53-04/26 through W-71-04/26)

BD-53-04/26 Approve the Minutes of the March 25, 2026 Board Meeting and the March 31, 2026 Special Board Meeting, as presented.

BG-19-04/26 Approve the request of Ferndale Area PTO, Responsible Officer Katrina Kauert, to use the Elementary Gymnasium and Cafeteria for a 5th and 6th Grade Dance on May 1, 2026 from 1:30 pm. – 3:30 pm., providing that no conflicts occur with District programs. (Received insurance and completed use of facilities form certifying compliance with clearance requirements)

BG-20-04/26 Approve William Carthew as a bus driver for Mlaker Transportation, Inc. for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.

BG-21-04/26 Approve Timothy Steweart as a van driver (BA license plated) for Mlaker Transportation, Inc. for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.

F-29-04/26 Approve the March Treasurer's Report, as presented.

F-30-04/26 Approve the General Fund and Cafeteria Bills, as presented.

IF-26-04/26 Receipts and disbursements.

IP-04-04/26 Employee #25269316 will be on a Family Medical Leave of Absence for approximately 4 weeks starting 04/20/2026 through 05/18/2026.

ST-97-04/26 Approve 12 students to attend the 8th Grade Democracy Bowl at University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown on April 9, 2026. Cost: Transportation: $240.00. Substitute: $100.00. Total Cost: $340.00 (District)

ST-98-04/26 Approve Drama Club trip to Indiana University of Pennsylvania on April 11, 2026. Total Cost: Transportation: $250.00 (Drama Club Account)

ST-99-04/26 Approve Elementary Reading Team to attend the Reading Competition at Forest Hills School District on April 14, 2026. Total Cost: Substitute for two (half-day): $100.00 (District)

ST-100-04/26 Approve 5 students to attend the Math 24 Challenge at St. Francis University on May 15, 2026. Total Cost: Substitute: $100.00 (District)

ST-101-04/26 Approve Senior Class trip to UPJ Wellness Center on May 22, 2026. Cost: Transportation: $195.00. Substitute for three: $300.00. Total Cost: $495.00 (District)

ST-102-04/26 Approve Sixth Grade trip to Ferndale Area Junior Senior High School on May 14, 2026. Total Cost: Transportation: $135.95 (District)

IST-07-04/26 Second Grade to visit the Mound Playground on May 1, 2026 (No Cost to District)

IST-08-04/26 Fifth Grade and Sixth Grade Students will visit Junior Achievement BizTown, Bridgeville, on May 4, 2026. (Grant Funded)

IST-09-04/26 PBIS Reward, Kindergarten through Second Grade visit to the Mound Playground, Third through Sixth Grade visit to the YMCA on May 18, 2026 (PBIS Account)

Approve the following workshops/conferences:

W-71-04/26 Kimberly Karcher, Family and Consumer Sciences, *PDE Family and Consumer Sciences Educator Workshop,* June 17th, 2026, State College. Total Cost: Mileage: 130.50 (District)

BD-54-04/26 Approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the proposed GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE BILL No. 41, would establish a mechanism for the PIAA to create separate playoffs for boundary and non-boundary schools in post-season games.

WHEREAS, the Ferndale Area School District endorses fair and equitable competitions.

WHEREAS, the Ferndale Area School District believes that non-boundary schools are at a unique advantage in relation to interscholastic competition, this includes students attending institutions from a larger geographic area and student athletes who reside in other states, not just Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, the Ferndale Area School District Board of Directors believes the even distribution of classifications should be representative of ALL PIAA sanctioned programs, ensuring Team and Individual Championships that fully reflect the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, over a five-year span (2019-2024), non-boundary schools were competing in PIAA State Championships at a rate of 23% - 58% among all classifications in sports to include: football, girls' volleyball, boys' wrestling, boys' and girls' basketball, boys' soccer, girls' soccer, baseball, and softball. The highest percentages are demonstrated in girls' and boys' basketball, and boys' wrestling, noting over half of the Champions and Runners-Up have been non-boundary schools.

WHEREAS, the Ferndale Area School District Board of Directors believe that the alignment and classifications of schools needs to be equitable and fair in order to demonstrate a full representation of the interscholastic athletic programs across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, the Ferndale Area School District Board of Directors believes that our classifications are impacted by non-boundary schools.

WHEREAS, the Ferndale Area School District Board of Directors calls on the PIAA to review current alignments and classifications to ensure fair and equitable competitive balance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED , we, the School Directors of the Ferndale Area School District, express our support for the proposed legislation, as upon enactment, it would create an avenue for more equitable competition among all students and public-school districts within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, thereby providing a benefit to the students of the Ferndale Area School District as well as all public-school districts throughout the Commonwealth.

BE IT RESOLVED that we request the PIAA, a public entity, to work within current laws and regulations to expand classifications in interscholastic athletics to ensure all students have the opportunity to compete against like-sized schools in the spirit of fair competition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call on our legislators in both the Pennsylvania State House of Representatives and the Pennsylvania Senate to support this legislation and move to enact meaningful reform.

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

2. Buildings and Grounds

IBG-05-04/26 Lead Test Results (David Gates)

IBG-06-04/26 Discussion on Traffic Study at the Junior-Senior High School

3. Cafeteria

None.

4. Education

Mr. Himes made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kinsey, to approve E-40-04/26 through E-47-04/26.

E-40-04/26 Approve the 2026-2029 Special Education Plan and submit to PDE, as presented pending no other recommendations or amendments.

E-41-04/26 Approve the contract with Nucleus Courses for Medical Terminology Curriculum for the 2026-2027 school year.

E-42-04/26 Approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Ferndale Area School District and Appalachian Youth Service for Day Treatment Services for all students for the 2026-2027 school year.

E-43-04/26 Approve continuing an Agreement to participate in the IU8 English as a Second Language (ESL) consortium for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost of $5,200.00 for the school year.

E-44-04/26 Approve an Agreement with Hiram G. Andrews for a Commonwealth Technical Institute Early Childhood Education Practicum Program.

E-45-04/26 Approve the 2026-2027 Flexible Instruction Day Program for the Ferndale Area School District, as presented.

E-46-04/26 Renew an Agreement between Ignite Education Solutions and Ferndale Area School District for Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth educational services for the 2026-2027 school year.

E-47-04/26 Approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires the General Assembly to maintain a "thorough and efficient system of public education," which requires that all students have access to a comprehensive, effective and contemporary system of public education.

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's 1.7 million public school students deserve the highest quality education; and the state's public schools work best when they have the resources to give all students the opportunities they need to succeed; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania ranks 6th among the 50 states in the percentage of local revenues allocated to support elementary and secondary education, among the highest in the nation, with local taxpayers' share of funding public education at more than 52%; and

WHEREAS, since the 2009-10 school year, mandated special education costs have increased by $3.6 billion, or 104%, while state and federal special education funding has only increased $280 million, or 21%, in that same time, leading the state's share of the cost to fall from 28% to 18.5%; and

WHEREAS, in the last decade, mandated costs for pensions, special education and charter school tuition alone have increased more than $6.1 billion, while state revenue intended to help pay those costs has only increased by $2 billion, leaving local schools responsible for the remaining $4.1 billion; and, even if all of the $2.3 billion increase in Basic Education Funding (BEF) were used to help cover those costs, local schools would still be left with a $1.7 billion deficit to pay for entirely out of local funds; and

WHEREAS, despite the clear return on investment, the state has failed to keep pace with the costs of providing career and technical education (CTE) pathways to students, allowing its share of CTE funding to fall to 11%, leaving school districts with an 89% share of CTE expenses; and

WHEREAS, public schools face escalating instructional and operational costs, heightened student mental health and behavioral health needs, mandated special education requirements, and persistent educator and support staff shortages that cannot be adequately addressed without sustained state support; and

WHEREAS, inadequate state funding places an additional burden on local taxpayers to pick up a greater share of public schools' costs to ensure that our students' education is not jeopardized; and

WHEREAS, increases in mandated costs prevent public schools from making critical investments in classrooms, technology, infrastructure, curriculum and other areas aimed at improving student achievement and reducing the burden on local taxpayers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ferndale Area School District urges the General Assembly to take legislative action for public education by:

- Continuing the state's commitment to adequacy funding;
- Continuing to provide significant and sustained increases to basic education funding (BEF) through the state's fair funding formula;
- Providing substantial increases to the special education funding and communicating the urgent need for increased federal funding to Congress;
- Providing sustained state funding and support for school infrastructure improvements; and
- Ensuring sufficient state resources are provided for career and technical education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the elected senators and representatives of the Ferndale Area School District in the General Assembly, and to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

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

IE-32-04/26 District-wide Highlights (William Brotz, Amy Mykut, Bernard Conway, Sutton Barron, Adam Barbe)

IE-33-04/26 GJCTC Joint Operating Committee Highlights (Richard Pavic)

5. Finance

Mr. Moschgat made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wright, to approve F-31-04/26 through F-34-04/26.

IF-27-04/26 Presentation of the 2026-2027 school year proposed Final Budget (David Gates)

F-31-04/26 Approve the 2026-2027 school year proposed Final Budget, as presented.

F-32-04/26 Approve posting the 2026-2027 proposed Final Budget for public inspection.

F-33-04/26 Approve an Agreement with Chester County Intermediate Unit for assistance with PIMS Support Services for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost of $1,240.

F-34-04/26 Approve an Agreement with NFHS School Broadcast Program, powered by PlayOn! Sports for $3,000 covering equipment, installation, service and support as detailed in the Agreement, for the Elementary Gymnasium.

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

6. Personnel

P-33-04/26 Dr. McKendree made a motion, seconded by Mr. Himes, to table the creation and posting/advertising for a Director of Elementary Athletics at the $4,000 Tier. Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, Kinsey, McKendree, Moschgat, R. Pavic, Washington, Wright. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: J. Pavic. The motion carried.

Mr. R. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Washington, to approve P-31-04/26 through P-35-04/26.

P-31-04/26 Approve Rebecca Segar as Homebound Instructor for a Junior-Senior High School Student for approximately 2 weeks, at Homebound rate.

P-32-04/26 Approve to hire Vincent Gongloff, Gallitzin, as a Junior-Senior High School Building Substitute for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year, as presented, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork.

P-33-04/26 Approve to create and post/advertise for the following positions:
– Assistant Play Director at the $1,250 Tier

P-34-04/26 Approve the following for part-time summer employment, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork:

- Ian McClucas
- Tessa Wenban
- Gabriella Myer
- Kaylee Schonvisky

P-35-04/26 Approve a Homebound Instructor for an Elementary Student, approximately 5 hours per week for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.

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

7. Student Activities

Mr. Wright made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moschgat, to approve ST-103-04/26 through ST-107-04/26.

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

ST-103-04/26 Maximilian Kauert, Johnstown, Head Junior High Boys Basketball Coach.

ST-104-04/26 Erin Maher, Johnstown, Junior High Cheerleading Coach.

ST-105-04/26 Approve moving Adam Hale to Head Junior High Softball Coach effective April 1, 2026.

ST-106-04/26 Approve hiring Dan Alderton as the Assistant Junior High Softball Coach effective April 17, 2026.

ST-107-04/26 Post and/or advertise for the following 2026-2027 Coaching positions:
- Boys' Junior High Basketball Assistant Coach

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

8. Workshops/Conferences

None.

The May Workshop Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, 2026. The May Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 27, 2026.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Himes made a motion, seconded by Mr. R. Pavic to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

The Board held an Executive Session for Personnel on April 22, 2026 at 6:28 p.m. The Executive Session ended at 7:09 p.m.