FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Meeting Minutes
May 27, 2026

I. The May 27, 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, Justin Pavic, Richard Pavic, Kimberly Washington, Julian Wright. Absent: None

Others in attendance were William Brotz, David Gates, Dane Domonkos, Administrators; Lynn Bennett, Stephanie Mino, FAEA/Resident; Laura Miller, FAEA; Susan Sheesley, PSEA Retired; Joyce Leberknight, Resident; Josh Byers, Tribune-Democrat; Kaitlyn Maddy, Recording Secretary.

V. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

Lynn Bennett, FAEA, announced FAEA Officers, stated FAEA passed the MOU for Dean of Students and MOU for Retirement Pay. Additionally, shared that teachers are asking for additional classroom set up time due to some switching rooms and some receiving new math curriculum.

VI. Committees Agenda

IBD-15-05/26 Student Board Representatives Report.

1. Board

Election of Treasurer

Section 404 of the Pennsylvania School Code " . . . during the month of May, elect a treasurer to serve for one year, beginning the first day of July following such election."

BD-55-05/26 Mrs. Boyle nominated Mr. Jason Moschgat as Board Treasurer for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, at a stipend of $1,200 per year, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

BD-56-05/26 Mr. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Washington, to close nominations. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

BD-57-05/26 Mr. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wright, to elect Mr. Jason Moschgat as Board Treasurer for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, at a stipend of $1,200 per year, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. Record vote for the motion: Boyle, Himes, Kinsey, Mckendree, Moschgat, J. Pavic, R. Pavic, Washington, Wright. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

Mrs. Himes made a motion, seconded by Mr. J. Pavic, to approve BD-58-05/26 through BD-60-05/26.

BD-58-05/26 Approve the May 27, 2026 Board Meeting Consent Agenda items (BD-59-05/26 through W-74-05/26)

BD-59-05/26 Approve the Minutes of the April 22, 2026 Board Meeting, as presented.

IBG-07-05/26 Summer office hours in all buildings will be 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. All Offices will be closed on Fridays over the summer June 5 - August 14, as presented. (Employee work/hours adjusted to fit within four workdays)

BG-22-05/26 Approve the request of Ferndale Area Volleyball Boosters, Responsible Officer Erika Stern, to use the Elementary Gymnasium Lobby, Table, and Chairs for Volleyball Booster Meeting on May 26, 2026 from 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm; proving that no conflicts occur with District programs. (Received insurance and completed use of facilities form certifying compliance with clearance requirements)

BG-23-05/26 Approve the request of Ferndale Area Volleyball Boosters, Responsible Officer Ross Orris, to use the Football, Baseball, and Softball Fields for a 3x3 Volleyball Tournament on June 6, 2026 from 7:00 am – 10:00 pm., proceeds benefit the Ferndale Area Volleyball Boosters; providing that no conflicts occur with District programs. (Received insurance and completed use of facilities form certifying compliance with clearance requirements)

BG-24-05/26 Approve the following employees to drive District owned vehicles. Motor Vehicle Records have been run and all names are included in the Districts Auto Insurance Exposure:

Mark Hrivnak	David Gates	Madison Crum
Aaron Stayrook	Dustin Rainey	Shawn Szarka
Art McClucas	Erika Stern	William Brotz
Christina Fosbrink	Justin Ogline	
Damian Buksa	Lynn Bennett	

BG-25-05/26 Approve Michael Cominsky as a van driver for Mlaker Transportation, Inc. for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.

IC-02-05/26 All student's breakfast and lunch meals are free for the 2026-2027 school year due to the Community Eligibility Program CEP Grant. Adult lunches are $5.25 and adult breakfast is $3.25.

E-48-05/26 Approve the graduation of the Ferndale Area School District seniors who completed the graduation requirements of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Ferndale Area School District.

F-35-05/26 Approve the April Treasurer's Report, as presented.

F-36-05/26 Approve the General Fund and Cafeteria Bills, as presented.

IF-28-05/26 Receipts and disbursements.

ST-108-05/26 Approve 5 students from the Elementary to attend the Math 24 Competition at Saint Francis University on May 15, 2026. Cost: Transportation: $250.00. Substitute: $100.00. Total Cost: $350.00 (District)

ST-109-05/26 Approve 10th Grade Class (approximately 40 students) trip to Byham Theater, Pittsburgh, October 21, 2026. Cost: Transportation: $680.00. Admission: $400.00. Substitute: $100.00. Total Cost: $1,180.00 (District)

IST-10-05/26 FAHS Band Members visit FAES 6th Grade on May 7, 2026. (FAHS Music)

IST-11-05/26 FAHS Marching Band visit to FAES for Fernstock on May 22, 2026. (FAHS Music)

Approve the following workshops/conferences:

W-72-05/26 Kimberly Karcher, Family & Consumer Sciences Teacher; *PDE Summer Pre Workshop ServSafe Manager Course and Exam;* State College, June 15-16, 2026. Cost: Lodging: $120.84. Mileage: $113.40. Total Cost: $234.24 (District)

W-73-05/26 Theresa Wolf, Accounts Payable/Receivable; *PA School Business Officials School Operations Academy 2026;* Camp Hill, July 21-22, 2026. Cost: Registration: $270.00. Lodging: $129.00. Meals: $15.00. Mileage and Tolls: $231.55. Total Cost: $645.55 (District)

W-74-05/26 Lynn Bennett, Speech Teacher; *Apraxia Kids National Conference*; Pittsburgh, July 9-11, 2026. Cost: Registration: $420.00. Lodging: $680.00. Mileage & Parking: $199.15. Total Cost: $1,299.15 (District)

BD-60-05/26 Approve Megan Carbaugh to attend the May 27, 2026 meeting and Kathleen McCreery to attend the May 28, 2026 meeting, these are mandatory meetings for both the LEAD and the partner for the PA Pre-K Counts & HSSAP Grantee Gathering at the Blair County Convention Center, Altoona, PA.

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

2. Buildings and Grounds

IBG-06-05/26 Discussion Lead Water Testing (David Gates)

3. Cafeteria

None.

4. Education

Mrs. Washington made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kinsey, to approve E-49-05/26 through E-58-05/26.

E-49-05/26 Approve the Revised 2026-2027 FASD PreK-12 Academic Calendar:
-- Move the Clerical Day from May 28, 2027 to May 25, 2027

E-50-05/26 Renew the continuation of an Agreement between Alternative Community Resource Program, Inc. and Ferndale Area School District for ACRP Adolescent Partial Hospitalization Program for the 2026-2027 school year.

E-51-05/26 Renew the continuation of an Agreement with Alternative Community Resource Program, Inc. to provide services for the 2026-2027 school year for Ferndale Area School District special education students diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD).

E-52-05/26 Renew the continuation of an Agreement with Alternative Community Resource Program, Inc. to provide an on-site Mental Health Therapist for students referred by the District for the 2026-2027 school year.

E-53-05/26 Renew the continuation of an Agreement with Westmoreland Intermediate Unit for students services, deaf-hard of hearing support (Itinerant), orientation and mobility support (Itinerant), and speech-language support (Itinerant only) for the 2026-2027 school year.

E-54-05/26 Approve continuing an Agreement with Ignite Education Solutions to provide substitute teachers and substitute nurses for the 2026-2027 school year.

E-55-05/26 Renew an Agreement with CAMCO Physical and Occupational Therapy, LLC to provide rehabilitative services to exceptional children attending FASD at a rate of $62.00 per contract hour of service. (August 1, 2026 to July 31, 2027)

E-56-05/26 Renew a Referral, Communication and Transfer Agreement between Ferndale Area School District and Impact Counseling Services, LLC for the 2026-2027 school year. The agency will provide drug and alcohol services to students.

E-57-05/26 Approve Memorandum of Understanding between Ferndale Area School District and Nulton Diagnostic & Treatment Center for Child-Adolescent Partial Hospitalization Program for the 2026-2027 school year.

E-58-05/26 Approve an Agreement with Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 for School-Age Education Services for the 2026-2027 school year.

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

IE-34-05/26 District-wide Highlights (William Brotz, Amy Mykut, Bernard Conway, Sutton Barron, Adam Barbe)

IE-35-05/26 GJCTC Joint Operating Committee Highlights (Richard Pavic)

5. Finance

Mr. Wright made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Washington, to approve F-37-05/26 through F-42-05/26.

F-37-05/26 Approve the 2026-2027 school year proposed Final Budget as presented, using the District's Fund Balance to balance the budget. The estimated remaining Fund Balance at June 30, 2027, $189,044, shall be classified as Unreserved, Designated for future pension obligations, health care increases, and debt repayment. The Preliminary Budget proposed $17,441,269 in Expenditures and $15,130,313 in Revenues.

F-38-05/26 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, 2026, 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:

    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 $492,140.12.

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 1176.

    b. Farmstead property number. The number of approved farmsteads within the School District is 3.

c. Total homestead/farmstead equals 1179.

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 $492,140.12 by the paragraph 2(c) aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads of 1179, the maximum real estate tax reduction amount applicable to each approved homestead/farmstead.

4. Homestead exclusion calculation. Dividing the paragraph 3 maximum real estate tax reduction amount of $417.42 by the School District real estate tax rate of 103 mills (.103), the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a homestead exclusion for each approved homestead is $4,052.64, and the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a farmstead exclusion for each approved farmstead is $4,052.64.

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 $4,052.64. 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 $4,052.64. 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.

F-39-05/26 Approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Ferndale Area School District is a school district of the third class, and is existing under and governed by the Public School Code of 1949, as amended; and

WHEREAS, Ferndale Area School District has this date duly enacted a budget for the School Fiscal Year 2026-2027; and

WHEREAS, Ferndale Area School District, to provide the necessary revenues for the operation of the School District, has deemed it necessary to levy certain taxes;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Ferndale Area School District, and it is hereby resolved by the authority of the same, that pursuant to the authority granted to school districts in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by Act of Assembly, approved December 13, 1956, Act 511, known as the "Local Tax Enabling Act", the following taxes shall continue in full force and effect, and remain due and payable for the School Fiscal Year 2026-2027, and the resolutions for like taxes for prior years, specifically including but not limited to the amendment thereof made by the taxing resolution dated June 30, 1981, are hereby enacted:

a. 1% earned income tax;
b. $5.00 per capita tax; and
c. real estate transfer taxes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to the authority granted to school districts in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by Act of Assembly approved March 10, 1948, P.L. 30, Article VI, Section 679, as amended, a per capita tax in the amount of $5.00 is imposed upon all persons residing in said district over the age of eighteen (18) during the School Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026, and the Resolution of June 26, 1974, as amended by taxing resolution of June 30, 1981, imposing a like tax is hereby re-enacted for the School Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all taxpayers who made payment of the aforesaid $5.00 per capita tax enacted pursuant to the authority of the Act of March 10, 1948, P.L. 30, Article VI, Section 679 as amended, and the aforesaid real estate taxes within two (2) months after the date of the tax notice shall receive a discount of 2% of the face amount thereof. All taxpayers who fail to make payment of such taxes shall, in addition to interest otherwise provided by law, be subject to, and required to pay, a penalty in the amount of 10% of the face amount of the tax due, which penalty shall be added to the taxes due and be collected by the Tax Collector, and further, shall be in addition to interest and other charges due thereon which are assessed pursuant to applicable law.

F-40-05/26 Approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Ferndale Area School District is a school district of the third class, and is existing under and governed by the Public School Code of 1949, as amended; and

WHEREAS, Ferndale Area School District has this date duly enacted a budget for the School Fiscal Year 2026-2027; and

WHEREAS, Ferndale Area School District, to provide the necessary revenues for the operation of the School District, has deemed it necessary to levy certain taxes;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ferndale Area School District, as provided by law, does hereby fix the rate of taxation for the School Fiscal Year 2026-2027, for the purpose of the real estate taxes levied by said District, at 103 mills, which tax rate is ten dollars and thirty cents, ($10.30 on each $100.00 of assessed valuation of taxable real property.

F-41-05/26 Approve Commercial Insurances policies for 2026-2027, as presented.

F-42-05/26 Authorize a new set of Bank Depository signatures for Mr. Dane Domonkos.

IF-29-05/26 The District received its Annual Workplace Safety Committee Approval Letter from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry which entitles the District to a 5% reduction in its Workers' Compensation premium.

IF-30-05/26 Tax Claim Bureau Letters - Notice of Proposed Sale of Realty Owned By Tax Claim Bureau As Trustee Grantor.

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

6. Personnel

IP-05-05/26 Post all applicable extra pay for extra duty positions for the 2026-2027 school year per current FAEA contract:

-- Advisor - Junior Class
-- Advisor - Senior Class (2)
-- Assistant Band Director – JSHS
-- Assistant Play Director – JSHS
-- Assistant Technology Student Association Advisor – JSHS
-- Band Director
-- Color Guard Director - JSHS
-- Curriculum Support Chairperson - Elementary Language Arts
-- Curriculum Support Chairperson - Elementary Math
-- Curriculum Support Chairperson - Elementary Science
-- Curriculum Support Chairperson - Elementary Social Studies
-- Department Chair - Secondary Language Arts
-- Department Chair - Secondary Math
-- Department Chair - Secondary Science
-- Department Chair - Secondary Social Studies
-- Department Chair - Special Education & Student Services
-- Detention Monitor, 1 Hr Session - ES
-- Detention Monitor, 3 Hr Session - (Wednesday, Friday) - JSHS
-- Detention Monitor, 1 Hr Session - (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday) – JSHS
-- Digital Marketing Specialist
-- District Art Room Coordinator
-- Elementary Dance
-- ESL Coordinator
-- Forensics Advisor - JSHS
-- Health & Wellness Coordinator
-- Interact Club Advisor – ES
-- Interact Club Advisor – JSHS
-- Jr. National Honor Society Advisor
-- Pre-K Orientation
-- Kindergarten Orientation
-- LEGO League Advisor (2) - ES

-- MathCounts Advisor - JSHS
-- Mentor (As Needed)
-- National Honor Society/Post Prom
-- PBIS Advisor (2) - ES
-- PBIS Advisor (2) - JSHS
-- Play Director - JSHS
-- Reading Team Advisor - ES
-- Reading Team Advisor - JH
-- Reading Team Advisor - SH
-- Science Olympiad Advisor - JSHS
-- Stage Director - JSHS
-- STEAM Advisor - ES
-- Student Council Advisor - JSHS
-- Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Advisor - JSHS
-- Yearbook Advisor - ES
-- Yearbook Advisor - JSHS
-- Yearbook Advisor - Assistant – JSHS

Mr. J. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wright, to approve P-36-05/26 through P-44-05/26.

P-36-05/26 Approve the following extra pay for extra duty positions, on an as needed basis, for the 2026-2027 school year and beyond at the Curriculum Rate rather than the Tier rate; at the discretion of Administrative approval:

-- Curriculum Support Chairperson - Elementary Language Arts
-- Curriculum Support Chairperson - Elementary Math
-- Curriculum Support Chairperson - Elementary Science
-- Curriculum Support Chairperson - Elementary Social Studies
-- Department Chair - Secondary Language Arts
-- Department Chair - Secondary Math
-- Department Chair - Secondary Science
-- Department Chair - Secondary Social Studies
-- Department Chair - Special Education & Student Services

P-37-05/26 Approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Ferndale Area School District and the Ferndale Area Education Association for a Dean of Students.

P-38-05/26 Approve a Memorandum of Agreement between Ferndale Area School District and the Ferndale Area Education Association regarding Retirement Pay.

P-39-05/26 Approve the Elementary Guidance Counselor to work up to a maximum of 70 hours beyond the regular school year, at the discretion of the building principal, for guidance duties (hourly rate). Additional hours may be approved at the discretion of the Superintendent. Activities qualifying as required, approved professional development will be paid at curriculum rate.

P-40-05/26 Approve the Secondary Guidance Counselor to work up to a maximum of 70 hours beyond the regular school year, at the discretion of the building principal, for guidance duties (hourly rate). Additional hours may be approved at the discretion of the Superintendent. Activities qualifying as required, approved professional development will be paid at curriculum rate.

P-41-05/26 Approve the following Extended School Year teachers for the summer of 2026:

-- Maeve Hrabosky
-- Kimberly Oakley

P-42-05/26 Approve the following for part-time summer employment, pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork:

-- Conner Hrivnak

P-43-05/26 Approve Erika Stern as Homebound Instructor for Student#300631 for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.

P-44-05/26 Approve to create and post/advertise for the temporary position of Athletic Director Intern for the 2026-2027 school year; this is a one-year-only position under the Athletic Agreement. Successful completion of the internship may lead to consideration for appointment as Athletic Director beginning with the 2027–2028 school year, subject to District needs, performance, qualifications, and Board approval.

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

P-45-05/26 Mr. Moschgat made a motion, seconded by Mr. Himes, to remove from the table P-33-04/26 (April 22, 2026 Board Meeting): Approve 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, J. Pavic, R. Pavic, Washington, Wright. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

P-46-05/26 Mr. Wright made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moschgat, to approve the creation and posting/advertising for a Director of Elementary Athletics at a to be determined Tier rate.

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

7. Student Activities

Mr. J. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kinsey, to approve ST-110-05/26 through ST-114-05/26.

ST-110-05/26 Approve the 2026-2027 Athletic Director Contract, as presented.

ST-111-05/26 Approve a one-time $700.00 stipend for the Athletic Director for goal achievement.

ST-112-05/26 Approve Gregory Bixel, Johnstown, as Assistant Varsity Cross Country Coach for the 2026-2027 season; pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork. Salary is based on the Coaches Contract.

ST-113-05/26 Approve Kyla Sidor, Johnstown, as Volunteer Varsity Cross Country Coach for the 2026-2027 season; pending receipt of all appropriate paperwork.

ST-114-05/26 Post and/or advertise the following coaching positions for the 2026-2027 school year:

-- Varsity Baseball Head Coach
-- Varsity Baseball Assistant Coach
-- Varsity Softball Head Coach
-- Varsity Softball Assistant Coach
-- Junior High Baseball Head Coach
-- Junior High Baseball Assistant Coach
-- Junior High Softball Head Coach
-- Junior High Softball Assistant Coach
-- Junior High Boys Basketball Assistant Coach

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

8. Workshops/Conferences

None.

The June Workshop Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 10, 2026. The June Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 17, 2026.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. R. Pavic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wright to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m.