

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

JUNE 8, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The regular business meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fox Chapel Area School District was called to order by president, Marybeth Dadd, at 7:04 p.m. on June 8, 2026, in the LGI Room at Fox Chapel Area High School. Prior to tonight's public meeting, members of the Board met in executive session to review the annual report on the district's current safety and security practices. Pursuant to the Public School Code, this report is to be presented at an executive session of the Board. The Board also discussed an employment matter and other agency business that, if discussed in public, would lead to the disclosure of information or confidentiality protected by law. Finally, the Board discussed with counsel information or strategy in connection with a pending litigation matter.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL-CALL

The Board members present at roll call were Mrs. Cooper, Ms. Dadd, Ms. Findley, Mr. Frank, Mr. Goode, Mr. Hamilton, Dr. Haselkorn, Mrs. Lynch, and Ms. Zych. Also present were Dr. Reljac, Dr. McCommons, Mr. Giuffre, and Mrs. Anuszek. Other members of the public were present.

GUESTS

There were no guests.

FOX LEADERSHIP COUNCIL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE(S)

There was no report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

• **A Lens on Learning** – Each month, we focus on student work in our schools to highlight lessons, growth, and successes of all kinds.

Tonight's presentation focused on the district's early childhood events.

Dr. Reljac introduced O'Hara Elementary School kindergarten teacher Dr. Alison Francis. She shared a presentation about the transition events that the district sponsors to help our newest learners be successful upon their arrival in the district.

Dr. Reljac congratulated the class of 2026 and thanked the staff for all of their hard work this year.

• **FCASD Named 'District on the Rise' in U.S.**

The Education Scorecard – a collaboration between Stanford University's Educational Opportunity Project and Harvard University's Center for Education Policy Research – recently designated Fox Chapel Area as a "District On the Rise."

The distinction recognizes school districts that are improving faster than their peers in both math and reading achievement, as measured by available standardized testing data. Fox Chapel Area is one of only 108 districts nationwide to receive this designation.

The Education Scorecard evaluates academic growth trends across school districts throughout the country.

• **District Ranks No. 1 in Region and State in Pittsburgh Business Times Guide**

For the third consecutive year, the Pittsburgh Business Times has ranked the Fox Chapel Area School District as the No. 1 school district in both Southwestern Pennsylvania and the state.

The rankings, released in May as part of the 2026 Guide to Southwestern Pennsylvania Schools, are based on the past three years of available standardized test scores – 2023, 2024, and 2025 – for grades three through eight on the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSAs) and the high school proficiency (Keystone Exams).

All the district's tested grade levels ranked in either the No. 1 or No. 2 spot in the region as follows:

Grade 3 – No. 2 position
Grade 4 – No. 2 position
Grade 5 – No. 1 position
Grade 6 – No. 1 position
Grade 7 – No. 1 position
Grade 8 – No. 2 position
Keystone (11th Grade) – No. 1 position

• **District Receives PBIS Recognition**

The Fox Chapel Area School District received Bronze-Level District of Distinction recognition from the Northeast Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Network (NEPBIS) for successfully implementing Tier 1 PBIS frameworks in all its schools.

Achieving the bronze-level recognition requires demonstrating consistent, evidence-based behavioral supports to improve school climate, social-emotional competence, and academic success.

The district was honored with a certificate in May at the NEPBIS Leadership Forum in Mystic, Connecticut.

• **FCASD Named One of Best Communities for Music Education**

The Fox Chapel Area School District has been named among the 2026 Best Communities for Music Education. This is the 15th year that the district has received this designation.

Fox Chapel Area is one of 141 in the state of Pennsylvania and one of approximately 1,000 school districts in the nation chosen for this honor. The distinction recognizes districts that demonstrate an exemplary dedication to music education and their ongoing efforts to ensure equitable access to music learning as part of a well-rounded education.

The districts were selected through a program sponsored by the NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) Foundation which honors districts for outstanding achievement in providing access to high-quality music education.

Recipients of the Best Communities for Music Education Awards were selected through a comprehensive application and review process that evaluates key indicators, including funding, instructional time, participation rates, facilities, and community support.

The NAMM Foundation is a nonprofit that works to remove systemic barriers that limit access to music-making and career pathways in the music industry. The group strives to build inclusive and thriving musical communities and invests in the future of music.

• **High School Named NSCA School of Distinction**

Fox Chapel Area High School has been named a School of Distinction by the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA), a prestigious honor recognizing excellence in strength and conditioning programs nationwide.

The NSCA School of Distinction program honors K-12 schools that demonstrate the highest standards in strength and conditioning. This recognition awards strength and conditioning programs that meet rigorous criteria in the following categories: program supervision; strength and conditioning program administration; strength and conditioning education; and facility management. Fox Chapel Area High School is among 13 schools nationwide to receive the recognition, and the first in Pennsylvania.

Fox Chapel Area School District's strength and conditioning program is led by **Brandon Peifer**, a Fox Chapel Area High School social studies teacher.

"Being recognized as an NSCA School of Distinction reflects the dedication and expertise of our staff, as well as the commitment of our students," says Michael O'Brien, Fox Chapel Area School District's director of athletics. "Coach Peifer's passion and proven workout implementation grounded in science is why his program is so successful."

"The NSCA School of Distinction award is a huge milestone because it proves we're committed to developing the 'whole student' by using the highest professional standards in athlete training and safety," Mr. Peifer adds. "This honor puts Fox Chapel on the national map, showing that our students have access to a top-tier, college-level environment right here in our high school. It's a proud moment that highlights the incredible teamwork between our strength staff, the administration, and our dedicated student-athletes."

For more information about the NSCA and its School of Distinction program, visit the National Strength and Conditioning Association at www.nscs.com.

•DMS Choirs Earn High Ratings

The Dorseyville Middle School (DMS) Chorale and the FoxTones performed both separately and together as the DMS Honor Choir at a High Note Festival in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Each ensemble earned the highest rating of "Superior" and all three groups were given trophies for their performances.

The Highnote Festival was held May 8, 2026, and the groups were judged by professional adjudicators.

The DMS Chorale includes 40 girls in sixth through eighth grades, the FoxTones includes 11 boys in grades six through eight, and the Honor Choir is made up of the Chorale and the FoxTones.

The DMS choirs are under the direction of teacher **Amy Beresik**.

•DMS Orchestra Earns Highest Rating

The Dorseyville Middle School Philharmonic Orchestra earned the highest rating possible at the Cedar Point Festival of Music. The orchestra was rated "Superior," and was the only middle school orchestra to earn that rating. The group received a plaque for its performance.

The festival was held May 15, 2026, at Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio.

The Dorseyville Middle School Philharmonic Orchestra includes 48 students in grades six, seven, and eight. The orchestra is under the direction of teacher **Jeffrey Bryer**.

•Students Win Regional Scholastic Writing Awards

Several Fox Chapel Area School District students won second-place and honorable mention awards for their submissions in the 2026 Pittsburgh Region and the national Scholastic Writing Awards.

Silver Keys were awarded to junior **Nadre Digbohau**; sophomores **Veronika McCarl** (10 Silver Keys), **Amelia Tedesco**, and **Divya Thirumala** (3 Silver Keys); freshmen **Kai Galyardt** (3 Silver Keys), **Celestial Hou** (2 Silver Keys), **Layla Niggel**, **Rebecca Smith**, and **Jack Teschke**; eighth-graders **Elodie**

Clark, Samuel Ettinger (3 Silver Keys), **Soleil Muller**, and **Simon Schmidt**; and seventh-graders **Norah Delaney** and **Evelyn Singh**.

Honorable Mentions went to seniors **Arman Alborzi**, **Ori Goldin**, and **Emma Kuhns**; juniors **Nadre Digbohau** and **Logan Rapp**; sophomores **Veronika McCarl** (2 Honorable Mentions), **Amelia Tedesco**, and **Eliana Wellman**; freshmen **Anaia Shehzad** (2 Honorable Mentions), **Rebecca Smith**, and **Jack Teschke**; and eighth-graders **Madelyn Burgess**, **Rosario Echeverria Conte**, **Samuel Ettinger** (4 Honorable Mentions), **Seth Gibson**, **Aarya Senn**, **Nora Spector**, and **Sarey Winston**.

Hundreds of submissions spanning a variety of different genres of writing were received from students in grades 7-12 from across Allegheny County. The local competition is sponsored by the Point Park University Honors Program, which hosted a regional recognition ceremony for the winners in March at the Pittsburgh Playhouse.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards is the nation's longest-running, most prestigious recognition program for creative teens.

• Students Place in State FBLA Competition

Several Fox Chapel Area High School and Dorseyville Middle School students placed at the 2026 Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) State Leadership Conference.

State place winners were seniors **Zelia Herald** (fifth place) and **Zinta Jacob** (fifth place); juniors **Braxton Bielawski** (seventh place), **Jolie Cessna** (ninth place), **Paige Dugan** (ninth place), **Noelle Fouron** (fifth place), **Ella Golomb** (ninth place), **Ainsley Good** (fifth place), **Dashel Wilson** (eighth place), and **Elias Zeiner** (fifth place); sophomores **Lucas Ahern** (sixth place), **Samuel Asher** (seventh place), **Fernando Echeverria Conte** (tenth place), **Emma Gilman** (eighth place), **Paulomi Goel** (ninth place), **Isabella Gray** (seventh place), **Margaret Handron** (fifth place), **Austin Helsel** (tenth place), **Philip Johnson** (fifth place), **Jacob Jones** (ninth place), **Filamena LeDonne** (eighth place), **Elizabeth Passavant** (fifth place), **Asher Peng** (ninth place), **Easton Ritz** (ninth place), **Ava Stackhouse** (eighth place), and **Matthew Wang** (fifth place); freshman **Delaney Drum** (tenth place); and seventh-grader **Oskar Guttridge** (fifth place).

Fox Chapel Area High School and Dorseyville Middle School state place winners in open events (not eligible for the national competition) were juniors **Aiden Drucker** (fourth place), **Noelle Fouron** (third, fifth, and seventh places), and **Ella Golomb** (seventh place); and sophomore **Anna Chrissis** (sixth and ninth places).

Additionally, as part of the state leadership conference, other awards were given. Several students were accepted into the National Business Honor Society (NBHS). The students are seniors **Zelia Herald** and **Zinta Jacob**; juniors **Aiden Drucker**, **Ella Golomb**, **Ainsley Goode**, **Allison Olivieri**, **Victoria Pfendler**, and **Melanie Pietz**; and sophomores **Lucas Ahern**, **Sydney Gibel**, and **Murray Smith**. Students are accepted into the NBHS through evaluation of an application, overall unweighted GPA, a résumé, a transcript, and a career-objective essay. Big 33 Community Service Awards went to senior **Nicholas Krist**; juniors **Aiden Drucker**, **Ella Golomb**, **Allison Olivieri**, and **Victoria Pfendler**; sophomores **Lucas Ahern**, **Andrew Dinh**, **Sydney Gibel**, and **Purv Patel**; and freshman **Rishabh Krishnamurthy**. Business Achievement Awards were given to juniors **Aiden Drucker**, **Noelle Fouron**, and **Celeste Yeske**; and sophomores **Filamena LeDonne** and **Asher Peng**. Business Achievement Awards allow students to learn more about FBLA and other business topics and include four levels of study. Students participate in a series of online interactive modules to achieve each level.

The Fox Chapel Area High School chapter of the FBLA also came in as the seventh largest in the state with a total of 185 students. There are 248 active high school chapters in Pennsylvania.

The FBLA State Leadership Conference was held in Hershey, Pennsylvania, April 12-14. Approximately 6,700 students from high schools and middle schools across the state participated in the competition.

• **FCASD Students Place at Regional PJAS Competition**

Several Fox Chapel Area High School and Dorseyville Middle School students won second-place and special awards as part of the 2026 Region 7 Meeting of the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS).

Fox Chapel Area second place winners were senior **Joanna Li**, junior **Heidi Stiger**, sophomores **Asher Peng** and **Kanyapat Wesaratchakit**, and seventh-graders **Alexander Li** and **Marisa Wesaratchakit**.

Additionally, freshman **Rishabh Krishnamurthy** and seventh-grader **Alexandra Delale-O'Connor** each received a Perfect Score Award. Heidi received a Women in Engineering Award and Alexandra also received a sustainability award.

The participating students (from several schools from Allegheny and Westmoreland counties) researched their science projects for several months. During the competition, each of the students was required to make a presentation in front of a panel of judges. The regional competition was held February 7 at Baldwin High School.

• **Students Win Awards at State PJAS Competition**

Two Fox Chapel Area High School juniors won awards at the 2026 State Meeting of the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS). The second place state winner was **Rachel Kim**, and **Param Thawani** received a Perseverance Award.

The participating Fox Chapel Area High School and Dorseyville Middle School students were among approximately 2,000 students in grades 7-12 from across Pennsylvania who qualified to participate in the state PJAS competition. The students researched their science projects for several months and were required to give an oral presentation in front of a panel of judges.

The state competition was held at Penn State University, Main Campus, May 17-19. All of the Fox Chapel Area students participating at the state level were named first-place winners at the annual Region 7 Meeting of the PJAS in February.

• **Students Win Awards at Regional Science and Engineering Fair**

Four Fox Chapel Area School District students won awards at the 2026 Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair (PRSEF).

Dorseyville Middle School seventh-grader **Alexander Li** received an honorable mention in the intermediate division engineering category, as well as a sponsor/affiliate award from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. Fox Chapel Area High School ninth-grader **Rishabh Krishnamurthy** won a University of Pittsburgh Department of Physics and Astronomy sponsor/affiliate award. Junior **Param Thawani** received a sponsor/affiliate award from the Princeton Alumni Association of Western Pennsylvania, and seventh-grader **Alexandra Delale-O'Connor** won a sponsor/affiliate award from the Society of Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh.

The PRSEF is open to students in grades 6-12 from 21 counties in Western Pennsylvania, as well as students in Garrett County in Maryland. Each year, students from more than 75 schools spend up to 12 months developing and executing a project and compete for more than \$1 million in cash, scholarships, and trips. All of the students who participated in the fair conducted individual science research and presented their projects to a committee of judges. The judging took place March 24 and 25 at the Kamin Science Center.

• **Students' Artwork Displayed as Part of Clay Exhibition**

Five Fox Chapel Area High School students had their work displayed as part of the Standard Clay 2026 High School Student Exhibition. The students are seniors **Lily Cannon**, **Adele Grady**, and **Morgan Van Kirk**; junior **Elise Dressman**; and sophomore **Ana Sofia Davit**.

The artwork of all the students involved in the show was on display during the month of April at the ClayPlace@Standard Gallery, part of Standard Ceramic Supply, located in Carnegie. The show featured the artwork of students from 16 high schools throughout the greater Pittsburgh area.

• **Students Place in German Day Competition**

Two Fox Chapel Area High School students placed second and third in the annual Three Rivers German Day Competition. Senior **Ava DeBruyn** won second place in the fictional writing category, and third place went to junior **Evelyn Owens**.

The Three Rivers German Day Competition was open to high school students from across Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia and was held April 9, 2026, at Washington & Jefferson College. Approximately 200 students participated in the event which was sponsored by the Western Pennsylvania/West Virginia Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG).

• **Student Named Outstanding Young Citizen**

Fox Chapel Area High School junior **Mateo Phelan-Vidal** was named a 2026 Outstanding Young Citizen awardee. The program honors students who demonstrate exemplary character and leadership, dedication to community service, and outstanding academic achievement. Students can be nominated by family, friends, school officials, teachers, and members of the community. Judging was done by an independent panel who reviewed the students' biographies and selected the Outstanding Young Citizens awardees and the Top 10 Gold Medalists.

The program was open to high school juniors and seniors from more than 100 schools across Western Pennsylvania and the students were honored in the print newspapers, as well as online.

• **Softball Players Named to Big 56 Section Teams**

Four Fox Chapel Area High School softball players were named to Big 56 teams. Junior **Jillian Haigh** was named to the WPIAL Class 5A Section 1 first team, and sophomore **Guiliana Foley** and freshmen **Lexi Stabile** and **Isabel Zober** were named to the second team.

• **Baseball Players Named to Big 56 Section Teams**

Five Fox Chapel Area High School baseball players were named to Big 56 teams. Senior **Blake Krushinski** and juniors **Tristan Blum** and **Elias George** were named to the WPIAL Class 5A Section 3 first team, and senior **Tyler Golembiewski** and sophomore **Milan Fluhme** were named to the second team.

• **Boys Lacrosse Players Named to All-Section Team/Coaches Named Coaches of the Year**

Seven members of the Fox Chapel Area High School boys varsity lacrosse team were named to all-section teams, and two of their coaches were named coaches of the year. Senior **Jacob Amster**, **Brady Matthews**, **Griffin McCaffrey**, and **Samuel Troutman**, and junior **Tucker Cullin** were named to the WPIAL Class AAA Section 2 first team. Seniors **Anderson Dockey** and **Nathan Johnson** received honorable mentions to the team. Additionally, **Jordon Hodder** and **Ben Romah** were named the WPIAL Class AAA Section 2 coach of the year and assistant coach of the year, respectively.

• **Boys Volleyball Players Named to Section Team**

Two members of the Fox Chapel Area High School boys varsity volleyball team were named to the WPIAL Class AAA Section 4 team. The students are seniors **Kagan Joyce** and **Owen Long**. The team was chosen by the WPIAL Coaches Association.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was no report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Dadd asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the combined agenda study session and regular business meeting dated May 4, 2026. On motion by Mr. Frank and seconded by Ms. Findley, the minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Academic Committee Report

There was no report.

B. Governance Committee Report

There was no report.

C. Projects and Planning Committee Report

There was no report.

NEW BUSINESS

The superintendent recommended that action be taken on the following items of business:

FACILITIES/TRANSPORTATION

A. Facilities/Transportation

On motion by Mrs. Lynch and seconded by Mr. Frank, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Facilities/Transportation items:

1. Change Order – High School Tennis Court Renovations Project

Approve change order 001 in the amount of \$39,300 for the high school tennis court renovations project. **This change order was reviewed and recommended by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority.**

2. Authorization to Advertise for Bids High School Athletic Field Sports Lighting Replacement Project

Authorize the advertisement for bids for the high school athletic field sports lighting replacement project.

3. Thomas & Williamson Program Management – Proposal Program Management and Construction Management Services Fox Chapel Area High School Mechanical Renovations Project

Accept the proposal from Thomas & Williamson Program Management for program management and construction management services related to the Fox Chapel Area High School mechanical renovations project at a cost of \$378,884.

**4. H.F. Lenz Co. – Proposal and Agreement
Engineering Services
Fox Chapel Area High School Mechanical Renovations Project**

Accept the proposal and approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and H.F. Lenz Co. for engineering services related to the Fox Chapel Area High School mechanical renovations project at a cost of \$552,000.

**5. H.F. Lenz Co. – Proposal and Agreement
Commissioning Services
Fox Chapel Area High School Mechanical Renovations Project**

Accept the proposal and approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and H.F. Lenz Co. for commissioning services related to the Fox Chapel Area High School mechanical renovations project at a cost of \$102,500.

FINANCE

B. Finance

On motion by Mr. Hamilton and seconded by Ms. Zych, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Finance items 1 – 6:

1. Disbursements (Fund 10) – May 2026

General fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$8,684,273.35 from May 1, 2026, through May 31, 2026, are approved.

2. Finance Report – April 2026

The finance report for April 2026 is acknowledged and filed for audit.

3. Budget Transfers

The budget transfers for 2025-2026 are approved.

4. Interfund Transfer

Approve an interfund transfer from Fund 10 (general fund disbursements) to Fund 32 (athletic capital reserves fund) in the amount of \$42,163 based on 50% of the 2025-2026 athletic ticket sales.

5. Insurance 2026-2027

Authorize the director of finance to enter into insurance contracts for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost not to exceed \$581,000.

6. 2026-2027 Fox Chapel Area School District Food Services Budget

Approve the 2026-2027 Fox Chapel Area School District Food Services Budget in the amount of \$2,246,250.

On motion by Mr. Hamilton and seconded by Mr. Frank, and after a discussion, it was resolved to approve the following Finance items 7 and 8 with 8 in favor and 1 opposed, Mrs. Lynch voting No:

7. Final 2026-2027 General Fund Operating Budget – Resolution 2026-5

Approve Resolution 2026-5 as follows:

**FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION 2026-5**

2026-2027 General Fund Operating Budget

A proposed final budget in the amount of \$125,489,654 as presented with 22.6898 mills of real estate tax and to continue all other taxes without change was preliminarily adopted May 4, 2026. The budget was advertised and made available to the public for review and comment for the past 30 days. The Board of School Directors and the administration have reviewed any comments. A budget in the amount of \$125,489,654 is presented for final approval.

RESOLVED, that a budget is hereby adopted for the Fox Chapel Area School District in the amount of \$125,489,654 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and a copy of said budget as finally adopted shall be on record in the office of the Secretary of the Board of School Directors; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fox Chapel Area School District hereby levies and re-enacts a tax for general revenue purposes of 1% on salaries, wages, commissions, and other compensation earned by residents of the Fox Chapel Area School District during the period beginning on July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, and for each successive fiscal year thereafter and on the net profits earned during said period from business, professions, and other activities conducted by residents of the Fox Chapel Area School District, in the same form as Resolution No. 1969-5 heretofore adopted by the Interim Operating Committee of Fox Chapel Area School District on June 29, 1970; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fox Chapel Area School District hereby levies a realty transfer tax for general revenue purposes of 1% upon the transfer of real estate or on interest in real estate situate within the Fox Chapel Area School District for the period from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, and for each succeeding fiscal year thereafter by the adoption of Resolution No. 1986-2; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fox Chapel Area School District hereby levies and re-enacts a tax for general purposes in the amount of \$10 upon the privilege of engaging in an occupation within the Fox Chapel Area School District in the fiscal year 2026-2027 and in each fiscal year thereafter; in the same form as Resolution No. R-1972-4 heretofore adopted by the Board of School Directors on January 1, 1973; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of School Directors of the Fox Chapel Area School District, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, hereby authorizes the appropriation and expenditure of the funds as itemized in the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, the necessary revenue for the same to be provided by the taxes hereinabove levied by the Board of School Directors and by a school tax levy on real estate which is hereby levied and assessed at the rate of twenty-two and six thousand eight hundred ninety-eight ten thousandths on the dollar on the total amount of the assessed valuation of all taxable real property in the Fox Chapel Area School District, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, at the rate of \$22.6898 on each \$1,000 of the assessed calculation of the taxable real property.

Adopted this 8th day of June, 2026, at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of School Directors.

8. Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion – Resolution 2026-6

Approve Resolution 2026-6 regarding the Fox Chapel Area School District Homestead Exclusion.

INSTRUCTION

C. Instruction

On motion by Mrs. Cooper and seconded by Mr. Goode, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Instruction items:

1. Textbook

Approve the new textbook listed below.

High School – Business Education

“Managing Your Personal Finances” by Tamra S. Connor; Publisher: Cengage; Copyright 2026, 8th Edition; for Career and Financial Essentials, Grade 11

**2. Allegheny Intermediate Unit
Comprehensive Services Agreement and Special Education Services Addendum A**

Approve the comprehensive services agreement and special education services Addendum A between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for specialized educational services for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. **This is a renewal of services.**

**3. Allegheny Intermediate Unit
Waterfront Learning Services – Addendum**

Approve the Waterfront Learning services addendum pursuant to the Allegheny Intermediate Unit 2026-2027 comprehensive services agreement for flexible virtual education options, effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. **This is a renewal of services.**

**4. Allegheny Intermediate Unit
Title III Consortium Memorandum of Understanding**

Approve the memorandum of understanding between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for participation in the Title III Consortium for the 2026-2027 school year, and authorize the superintendent to execute the memorandum of understanding on behalf of the district. **This is a renewal of services.**

**5. Human Services Administration Organization
Student Assistance Program (SAP) – Letter of Agreement**

Approve the letter of agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Human Services Administration Organization to provide Student Assistance Program (SAP) services for the 2026-2027 school year, and authorize the superintendent to execute the letter of agreement on behalf of the district. **This is a renewal of services and is funded by the Allegheny County Office of Behavioral Health.**

**6. East End Therapists LLC
Linkage Agreement for Mental Health Services in Schools**

Approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and East End Therapists LLC for mental health services in schools for the 2026-2027 school year, and authorize the administration to execute the agreement on behalf of the district. **This is a new agreement and there is no cost to the district.**

7. LinkIt! – Quote and Software License Agreement

Accept the quote and approve the software license agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and LinkIt! for the Instructional Management System that LinkIt! provides effective for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost of \$14,976.60. **This is a renewal of services.**

8. Renaissance Learning, Inc. – Quotes

Accept the quotes from Renaissance Learning, Inc. for data-driven software and assessment solutions effective for the 2026-2027 school year at a total cost of \$62,646.83. **This is a renewal of services.**

9. Global Wordsmiths – Language Services Agreement

Approve the language services agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Global Wordsmiths to provide language interpretation services and language translation services at a cost as listed in the fee schedule effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. **This is a renewal of services.**

10. PHASE 4 Learning Center, Inc. – ACT 48 Program Agreement for Services

Approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and PHASE 4 Learning Center, Inc. for alternative education services for students for the 2026-2027 school year. **This is a renewal of services.**

11. Wesley Family Services – Agreement

Approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Wesley Family Services for child/adolescent Partial Hospital Program (PHP) services for the 2026-2027 school year. **This is a renewal of services.**

**12. St. Anthony Post-Secondary Program
Public School District Service Agreement**

Approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and St. Anthony School Programs for post-secondary program services effective August 24, 2026, through June 30, 2027. **This is a renewal of services.**

13. LearnWell – Agreement

Approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and LearnWell for tutoring services effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, at a cost stated in Exhibit A. **This is a renewal of services.**

14. Pressley Ridge Autism – Addendum #9 to the Contractual Agreement

Approve addendum #9 pursuant to the contractual agreement approved August 14, 2017, between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Pressley Ridge Autism for services to students for the 2026-2027 school year. **This is a renewal of services.**

15. Kristine Orosz – Contractual Agreement

Approve the contractual agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Kristine Orosz to provide special education evaluations to students identified by the district for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. **This is a renewal of services.**

16. The School at McGuire Memorial – Educational Services Agreement

Approve the educational services agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and The School at McGuire Memorial for the 2026-2027 school year beginning August 24, 2026, through June 30, 2027, and the 2027 ESY program. **This is a renewal of services.**

**17. Pittsburgh Behavioral Services, Inc., DBA PGH ABA
Educational Placement Service Agreements**

Approve the educational placement service agreements between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Pittsburgh Behavioral Services, Inc., DBA PGH ABA, for special education services for the 2026-2027 school year, and the 2027 ESY program. **This is a renewal of services.**

**18. The Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children
Outreach Services Contract Agreement**

Approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children for services to students effective August 30, 2026, through August 29, 2027. **This is a renewal of services.**

19. River Academy of Excellence – Master Student Education Agreement

Ratify the master student education agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and River Academy of Excellence to provide services for an unnamed student for the 2025-2026 school year. **This is a renewal of services.**

LEGISLATION/POLICY

D. Legislation/Policy

There was no business.

PERSONNEL

E. Personnel

Candidates for employment under this section are approved subject to verification of the results of physical and drug screening examinations, required clearances, and all other essential employment requirements under Policy and Administrative Regulations 304-AR and 304-AR-4.

On motion by Ms. Zych and seconded by Mr. Frank, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Personnel items:

1. Resignations

a. Professional

- (1) The resignation of David W. Dadowski, science teacher at Dorseyville Middle School, due to retirement, is accepted effective June 11, 2026.
- (2) The resignation of Dana M. Ferrari, elementary teacher at O'Hara Elementary School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective June 11, 2026.
- (3) The resignation of Patricia E. McCauley, elementary teacher at O'Hara Elementary School, due to retirement, is accepted effective June 11, 2026.

- (4) The resignation of Kayla M. Walnoha, computer literacy teacher at O'Hara Elementary School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective June 11, 2026.
- (5) The resignation of Cara E. Zlatos, elementary teacher at Kerr Elementary School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective June 11, 2026.

b. Educational Support

- (1) The resignation of Colleen S. Lazaro, instructional assistant at Hartwood Elementary School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective May 18, 2026.

c. Custodial/Maintenance

- (1) The resignation of Karon J. Henderson, 10-month, 8 hours per day custodian at Fairview Elementary School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective May 27, 2026.
- (2) The resignation of Maria A. Riga, 12-month, 8 hours per day custodian at O'Hara Elementary School, due to retirement, is accepted effective June 8, 2026.

d. Food Services

- (1) The resignation of Margaret J. Allen, food services worker at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective June 8, 2025.
- (2) The resignation of Lynda M. Dugan, food services worker at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective June 8, 2025.

e. Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic

- (1) The resignation of Season A. Gigliotti, class sponsor 6th grade (50%), due to personal reasons, is accepted effective June 11, 2026.
- (2) The resignation of Season A. Gigliotti, class sponsor 7th grade, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective June 11, 2026.
- (3) The resignation of Kayla M. Walnoha, student govt – O'Hara sponsor, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective June 11, 2026.

f. Services Agreement

- (1) The resignation of Keith Gorse, athletic trainer for the Fox Chapel Area School District, due to retirement, is accepted effective May 18, 2026.

g. Summer Programs – 2026

- (1) The resignation of Mary E. Dixon, summer high school FCAO credit recovery faculty for the Western PA Learning Academy, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective June 3, 2026.

2. Appointments

a. Administration

- (1) Kenneth A. Bissell, Ed.D., is approved as the executive director of secondary education and instruction. This position is available due to the resignation of Matthew Patterson, Ph.D.

Certificate: Superintendent PK-12
Education: Ed.D., University of Pittsburgh, 2017
M.A., Appalachian State University, 2004
B.A., University of Pittsburgh, 2002
Experience: 22 years, Greensburg Salem School District
Effective: To be determined
Salary: \$179,000
Fringe Benefits: As per the Act 93 Agreement

b. Professional

- (1) Julia G. Arlia is approved as an elementary teacher at O'Hara Elementary School. This position is available due to an open position.

Certification: Instructional I
Education: B.S., Duquesne University, 2024
Experience: 1 year, Fox Chapel Area School District
Effective: August 17, 2026
Salary: \$59,263 based on Step 2, B+0
Fringe Benefits: As per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

- (2) Joshua D. Mariana is approved as an elementary teacher at Kerr Elementary School. This position is available due to the resignation of Cara Zlatos.

Certification: Instructional I
Education: B.S., Robert Morris University, 2006
Teacher Certification Pathways, Wilson College, 2025
Experience: 1 Year, Fox Chapel Area School District
Effective: August 17, 2026
Salary: \$59,263 based on Step 2, B+0
Fringe Benefits: As per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

- (3) Olivia R. Thompson is approved as an elementary teacher at Kerr Elementary School. This position is available due to the retirement of Kristin Bashforth.

Certification: Instructional I
Education: M.Ed., University of Pittsburgh, 2026
B.S., University of Pittsburgh, 2025
Experience: Student Teaching, Fox Chapel Area School District
Effective: August 17, 2026
Salary: \$67,038 based on Step 1, M+0
Fringe Benefits: As per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

- (4) Taylor R. Trasatti is approved as an elementary teacher at O'Hara Elementary School. This position is available due to an open position.

Certification: Instructional I
Education: B.S., Penn State University, 2022
M.Ed., Slippery Rock University, 2025
Experience: 1 year, Hampton Township School District
1 year, Fox Chapel Area School District
Effective: August 17, 2026
Salary: \$68,088 based on Step 3, M+0
Fringe Benefits: As per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

- (5) Kayla M. Wise is approved as an elementary teacher at O'Hara Elementary School. This position is available due to increased enrollment.

Certification: Instructional I
Education: B.S., Duquesne University, 2023
Experience: 2 years, Fox Chapel Area School District
Effective: August 17, 2026
Salary: \$59,788 based on Step 3, B+0
Fringe Benefits: As per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

c. Educational Support

- (1) Kayla M. Connelly is approved as a personal care assistant at Hartwood Elementary School, effective August 21, 2026. Salary is set based on the starting wage for personal care assistants, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the transfer of Clara Barnes.
- (2) Jill A. Lawson is approved as a personal care assistant at Hartwood Elementary School, effective August 21, 2026. Salary is set based on the starting wage for personal care assistants, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the transfer of Heather Wike.
- (3) Stefanie M. Meyers is approved as a personal care assistant at Kerr Elementary School, effective August 21, 2026. Salary is set based on the starting wage for personal care assistants, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to expanding special education.

d. Supplemental Contracts – Athletic

- (1) The following athletic supplemental contracts are approved for the 2026-2027 school year:

Timothy Derbish	Intramurals, MS Back on Track Sponsor 6, BOT	\$2,146
Jessica Shannon	Intramurals, MS Back on Track Sponsor 2, BOT	\$2,146

**e. Supplemental Contracts – Athletic
Spring Season of the 2026-2027 School Year**

- (1) The athletic supplemental contracts for the spring season of the 2026-2027 school year are ratified/approved.

f. Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic

- (1) The following non-athletic supplemental contracts are approved effective the 2026-2027 school year:

Craig Reinhard	Class Sponsor 6th Grade (50%)	\$1,731
Craig Reinhard	Class Sponsor 7th Grade	\$3,462

3. Leave

a. Professional

- (1) Emily C. Hinojosa, reading support teacher at Fairview Elementary School, is ratified for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective April 24, 2026, with return scheduled for March 29, 2027.

4. Purchase-of-Service Agreements

a. Health Services

- (1) The purchase-of-service agreement for substitute nurse services between Kristan M. Mawhinney and the Fox Chapel Area School District is approved effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, as presented. **This is a renewal of services.**
- (2) The purchase-of-service agreement for substitute nurse services between Kimberly L. Rosenberg and the Fox Chapel Area School District is approved effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, as presented. **This is a renewal of services.**
- (3) The purchase-of-service agreement for substitute nurse services between Elizabeth A. Scholz and the Fox Chapel Area School District is approved effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, as presented. **This is a renewal of services.**

5. Summer Programs – 2026

a. STEAM Camp

- (1) Jill A. Lawson is approved as a personal care assistant for the STEAM Camp at Fairview Elementary School at a rate of \$21.68 per hour, with a maximum of 35 hours.

6. Volunteer – Athletic

- a. The following athletic volunteer is approved, effective June 10, 2026:

Jessica Wilson High School Girls Soccer

7. Compensation Adjustments – Nutrition Center

- a. The wage scale for food services employees is approved as follows:

Wage Scale 2026-2027:

General Food Worker – New Hire	\$16.88/hour
General Food Worker – 1	\$16.88/hour
General Food Worker – 2	\$17.86/hour
General Food Worker – 3	\$19.12/hour
Lead – 1	\$19.17/hour
Lead – 2	\$20.27/hour
High School Manager	\$25.13/hour

8. Agreement

Approve the agreement between the district and an unnamed employee as presented.

OPERATIONS/COOPERATIVE SERVICES

F. Operations/Cooperative Services

On motion by Mr. Goode and seconded by Ms. Findley, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Operations/Cooperative Services items:

1. Authorization for Approval of Change Orders

Authorization for the superintendent or designee to approve, on behalf of the Fox Chapel Area Board of School Directors, change orders issued during June through August 9, 2026, for the ongoing construction projects as recommended by the construction/project manager, in an amount not to exceed \$24,499.

2. Authorization for Payment of Construction Invoices

Authorization for the superintendent or designee to approve, on behalf of the Fox Chapel Area Board of School Directors, payment of invoices for the months of June and July 2026 for all previously board-approved contract work and change orders for the ongoing construction projects, as recommended by the construction/project manager.

3. Resolution 2026-7

Approve resolution 2026-7 recognizing Fox Chapel Area Flag Football Boosters as a Nonschool-Affiliated Organization (NSAO), as that term is defined in Board policy 915.

4. Student Teaching Affiliation Agreements

Approve the following student teaching affiliation agreements:

Carnegie Mellon University
Point Park University

5. School Psychology Affiliation Agreement

Approve the following school psychology affiliation agreement:

Pennsylvania Western University (PennWest)

6. School Nursing Affiliation Agreement

Approve the following school nursing affiliation agreement:

Millersville University of Pennsylvania

7. Dental Examiner – 2026-2027 School Year

Approve Dr. Susan Buzzatto as dental examiner for the 2026-2027 school year at a rate of \$25 per student, at original entry into school and in grades three and seven, and \$125 for cleaning of instruments. **This is a renewal of services.**

8. Meal Prices

Approve the meal prices and milk price for the 2026-2027 school year as listed below. **Free School Breakfast Program (SBP) meals for all students and no charge for reduced price eligible student lunches through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) will continue in the 2026-2027 school year.**

Breakfast	Free
Reduced-Price Breakfast	Free
Adult Breakfast	\$3.05
Elementary Lunch	\$2.65
Secondary Lunch	\$2.95
Reduced-Price Lunch	Free
Adult Lunch	\$5.05
Milk	\$0.75

9. Omnigo Software, LLC – Quote

Accept the quote from Omnigo Software, LLC to provide a records management system to the district school police officers effective June 15, 2026, through June 14, 2027, at a cost of \$11,192.76. **This is a renewal of services.**

10. Donation – Dorseyville Middle School Music Department

Accept the anonymous donation of \$5,000 to be used by the Dorseyville Middle School music department to support the orchestra program and future music students.

11. YMCA – Agreement and Lease

Approve the agreement and lease between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the YMCA for the before-/after-school child care program during the school year, and a day care camp during the summer, effective August 1, 2026, through July 31, 2027. **This is a renewal of services, and there is no cost to the district.**

12. Dagostino Electronic Services, Inc. – Proposals for Camera Upgrades

Accept the proposals from Dagostino Electronic Services, Inc. for camera upgrades, effective June 9, 2026, at a total cost of \$49,457.76. **A portion of this cost, \$34,245.34, will be funded by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) School Safety Grant.**

SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were two comments.

1. Nicolas Squeglia, community resident, commented on athletic procedures.
2. Tony Squeglia, community resident, commented on the athletic handbook and the role of the athletic director.

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

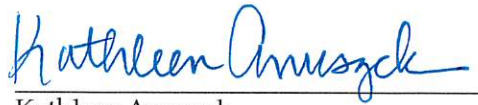
Rachel Machen, Fox Chapel Educators Association president-elect, gave a report.

BOARD COMMENTS

There were eight comments. Ms. Dadd, Mr. Goode, Ms. Zych, Mr. Hamilton, Dr. Haselkorn, Mrs. Lynch, Ms. Findley, and Mr. Frank commented.

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m.



Kathleen Anuszek
Board Secretary