FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

OCTOBER 12, 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 7:02 p.m. on October 12, 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 discuss with counsel a pending litigation matter and to discuss information related to collective bargaining or labor relations. A committee of the whole meeting was held immediately following this regular business meeting.

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)

Senior Logan Rapp, lead of the Fox Leadership Council's Diversity Council, reported on the Eradicate Hate Summit that some of our students attended.

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 middle school's Game Design and Development class.

Dorseyville Middle School principal Dr. Laura Miller introduced middle school teacher Andrew Shaw who shared a presentation. Mr. Shaw, along with eighth grader Nina Passavant, showcased the Game Design and Development class that is part of the school's Unified Arts curriculum.

• **Students Win Third Place & Honorable Mention in National PSA Contest**

Fox Chapel Area High School 2026 graduate **Emily Korczyski** was named a third-place national winner for directing and producing, and an advanced media production class of 2025-2026 high school students was named an honorable mention winner, in the 2026 Create Real Impact Contest in the high school campaign category.

The students produced a public service announcement (PSA) titled, "The Final Rose," that was a take on "The Bachelorette," with a student giving a "Final Rose" to the safest driver.

The students involved with producing the PSA were 2026 graduates **Deniko Agurs, Quinn Carey, Samuel Kieffer, Emily Korczynski,** and **Eugenia Mettenburg;** 2025-2026 juniors **Lauren Bachman, Harry Bradley, Dax Buitrago, Finnegan DeRensis, Elias George, Logan Rapp, James Saleone, Nico Tavolario,** and **Jeffery Zacharias;** and 2025-2026 sophomores **Jonah Driver, Omar Elshahat, Giuliana Foley,** and **Jacob Kull.**

According to a letter from Kelly Browning, the executive director of Impact Teen Drivers, the sponsor of the contest, "Your campaign stood out for its creativity, positive messaging, and commitment to

promoting safe driving and riding behaviors while helping prevent reckless and distracted driving … We were especially inspired by your efforts to highlight positive solutions and strategies that can help stop preventable car crashes and create safer communities for everyone."

The goal of the Create Real Impact contest, open to students from across the United States ages 14-22, was to emphasize the importance of avoiding reckless and distracted driving and reducing teen driving injuries and fatalities on roadways and walkways. The students were to create a PSA that could be shared on social media. Fox Chapel Area High School received a Create Real Impact Educational Grant of $500 for the students' honorable mention win.

The PSA created by Fox Chapel Area High School students can be viewed at *https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mfoFxCKJDi0*.

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 September 14, 2026. On motion by Mr. Frank and seconded by Ms. Zych, the minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Academic Committee Report

Dr. Haselkorn, academic committee chairperson, gave a report.

B. Governance Committee Report

Mr. Frank, governance committee chairperson, gave a report.

C. Projects and Planning Committee Report

Ms. Zych, projects and planning committee chairperson, gave a 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 Ms. Findley, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Facilities/Transportation items:

1. **Award of Contract**
   High School Athletic Field Sports Lighting Replacement Project

   Accept the bid of GeoSport Lighting Systems, LLC, for the General Construction Contract with a Base Bid amount of $499,500, and approve to award a contract to the bidder for the high school athletic field sports lighting replacement project conditioned upon the bidder's written acceptance of the terms and conditions of the contract, and timely submission of all required pre-award documentation, contract documents, and post-bid award documents. **This was reviewed and recommended by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority.**

2. **Authorization to Advertise for Bids**
   Fox Chapel Area High School Mechanical Renovations Project

   Authorize the advertisement for bids for the high school mechanical renovations project.

3. **Additional School Bus Drivers – 2026-2027 School Year**

   Ratify hiring the additional ABC Transit, Inc., drivers effective for the 2026-2027 school year. All required licensing, clearances, and all other essential employment requirements for school bus operators under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have been verified.

FINANCE

B. Finance

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

1. **Disbursements (Fund 10) – September 2026**

   General fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of $12,638,662.14 from September 1, 2026, through September 30, 2026, are approved.

2. **Disbursements (Fund 31) – September 2026**

   Capital reserves fund disbursements (Fund 31) in the amount of $49,662.75 from September 1, 2026, through September 30, 2026, are approved.

3. **Finance Report – August 2026**

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

4. **Budget Transfers**

   The budget transfers for 2026-2027 are approved.

5. **Bond Refinance – Resolution 2026-9**

   Approve Resolution 2026-9, as prepared by district bond counsel, authorizing the issuance of bonds for the refunding of the district's outstanding Series of 2017 Bonds, in order to achieve debt service savings, so long as a minimum local debt service savings of $2,000,000 can be achieved.

6. **Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program – Resolution 2026-10**

   Approve Resolution 2026-10 authorizing the participation of the Fox Chapel Area School District in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program through the 2027-2028 school year, and authorizing the appointment of Ryan Manzer, director of finance, and Daniel Breitkreutz, director of ancillary services, as representatives of the district. **This is a renewal of participation.**

7. **Advanced Machine and System Technologies Inc. (AMASTI)**
   Integrated Mailing System – Service Contract

   Approve the service contract between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Advanced Machine and System Technologies Inc. (AMASTI) for an integrated mailing system, effective October 13, 2026, through January 13, 2032, at a cost of $413.65 per month. **This is a renewal of services at a 15% cost increase.**

INSTRUCTION

C. Instruction

On motion by Mrs. Cooper and seconded by Mr. Frank, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Instruction item:

1. Magic School LLC – Agreement, Custom Data Privacy Agreement, and Price Quote

Approve the agreement, custom data privacy agreement, and price quote from Magic School LLC for services to support educators and students when using artificial intelligence effective from October 13, 2026, through October 12, 2027, at a total cost of $29,342.25. **This is a new service and will be funded by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) School Safety Grant.**

LEGISLATION/POLICY

D. Legislation/Policy

On motion by Mr. Frank and seconded by Mr. Goode, and after a discussion, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Legislation/Policy item:

1. Policies – Revised – First Reading

Approve the first reading of the following revised policies:

No. 140 – Charter Schools
No. 221 – Dress and Grooming
No. 325 – Dress and Grooming
No. 332 – Working Periods
No. 716 – Integrated Pest Management
No. 810 – Transportation

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, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Personnel items 1 – 5:

1. Resignations

a. Educational Support

(1) The resignation of Stefanie Meyers, personal care assistant at Kerr Elementary School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective September 14, 2026.

b. Custodial/Maintenance

(1) The resignation of Christopher A. Skwortz, 10-month, 8 hours per day athletic maintenance employee for Fox Chapel Area School District, due to retirement, is accepted effective October 5, 2026.

2. Appointments

a. Professional

(1) Jessica A. Wilson is approved as a certified school nurse at Hartwood Elementary School. This is a new position due to district needs.

Certification:	Educational Specialist II
Education:	B.A., University of Pittsburgh, 2004
	ADN, UPMC St. Margaret School of Nursing, 2010
	B.S., Ohio University, 2019
Experience:	6 years, Shaler Area School District
Effective:	To be determined
Salary:	$65,353 (prorated), based on Step 7, B+0
Fringe Benefits:	As per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

b. Food Services

(1) Michaela Penn is approved as a permanent, part-time (5.75 hours per day) food services employee in the Dorseyville Middle School cafeteria. Hourly wage is set based on the wage scale for food services employees, General Food Worker – 2, with no fringe benefits, effective date to be determined, pending the fulfillment of pre-employment requirements. This position is available due to the resignation of Christine Weber.

(2) Umedakhon Sharipova is approved as a permanent, part-time (4.5 hours per day) food services employee in the Dorseyville Middle School cafeteria. Hourly wage is set based on the wage scale for food services employees, General Food Worker – 2, with no fringe benefits, effective date to be determined, pending the fulfillment of pre-employment requirements. This position is available due to the resignation of Amber Eddy.

(3) Genevieve Stout is approved as a permanent, part-time (4 hours per day) food services employee in the Fox Chapel Area High School cafeteria. Hourly wage is set based on the wage scale for food services employees, General Food Worker – 2, with no fringe benefits, effective date to be determined, pending the fulfillment of pre-employment requirements. This position is available due to the resignation of Michelle Kondas.

c. Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic

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

Erin Rowlands	Planetarium Director	$ 879
Ashley Wickert	Yearbook Sponsor – MS	$3,124
Monica Gralewski	Overnight Camp Counselor	$ 410

3. Leaves

a. Professional

(1) Meredith Z. Brown, elementary teacher at Hartwood Elementary School, is approved for a second semester medical sabbatical, effective January 15, 2027, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2027-2028 school year.

(2) Rebecca L. Grzebyk, elementary teacher at Hartwood Elementary School, is approved for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective January 28, 2027, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2027-2028 school year.

(3) Gabriella E. Haberman, elementary teacher at O'Hara Elementary School, is approved for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective January 22, 2027, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2027-2028 school year.

(4) Emily L. Turner, French teacher at Fox Chapel Area High School, is approved for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective December 22, 2026, with return scheduled for April 1, 2027.

b. Custodial/Maintenance

(1) Theodore W. Polanowski Jr., 12-month 8 hours per day maintenance employee for the Fox Chapel Area School District, is ratified for a special sick leave, worker's compensation (non-contributing), effective October 12, 2026.

4. Salary Correction

a. Professional

(1) Alexandra A. Czerski, previously approved as a leave replacement reading support teacher at Fairview Elementary School, with salary set at $67,300.50 (prorated), based on step 1.5, M+0 of the salary schedule, is ratified with salary set at $67,038 (prorated), based on step 1, M+0 of the salary schedule.

5. Volunteer – Athletic

a. The following athletic volunteer is ratified, effective October 12, 2026:

Jacob Donovan	Strength and Conditioning – HS

On motion by Ms. Zych and seconded by Ms. Findley, it was resolved to approve the following Personnel item 6 with 8 in favor and 0 opposed and Mr. Frank abstaining as attached:

6. Appointment

a. Supplemental Contract – Athletic

(1) The following athletic supplemental contract is ratified effective October 12, 2026:

Timothy Frank	Softball, MS Head	$3,840

OPERATIONS/COOPERATIVE SERVICES

F. Operations/Cooperative Services

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

1. Fox Chapel Area School District Comprehensive Emergency Management (CEM) Plan

Approve the district's Comprehensive Emergency Management (CEM) Plan. This multi-hazard plan is in compliance with state and federal emergency guidelines under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA). This plan must be approved annually.

2. **Walsworth Publishing Company, Inc. – Yearbook Purchase Agreement**

   Approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Walsworth Publishing Company, Inc. for the production of the 2027 Fox Chapel Area High School yearbook at a cost of $45,562. **This is a new agreement that provides cost savings for the district and for high school families.**

SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

There was no report.

BOARD COMMENTS

There were three comments. Mr. Frank, Ms. Dadd, and Ms. Zych commented.

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Kathleen Anuszek
Board Secretary

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OPERATIONS GUIDELINES

APPROVED: May 10, 2010

REVIEWED: March 8, 2022

APPROVED: April 4, 2022

006-BOG-4. ABSTENTION FOR CONFLICT OF INTEREST MEMORANDUM

TO: Board Secretary, FOX CHAPEL AREA School District

FROM: RON FRANK Board member

DATE: OCT. 14, 2026

Pursuant to Pennsylvania's "Public Official and Employee Ethics Law" I hereby declare that I am required to abstain regarding the following issue/motion:

#6 PERSONNEL ATHLETICS
HEAD SOFTBALL DMS
TIMOTHY FRANK

My conflict/reason for abstaining is as follows:

FAMILY MEMBER

Signature of Board member