



# South Fayette Township School District

## Regular Meeting

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

7:30 PM

High School Studio

### AGENDA

#### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – President Len Fornella

- ◆ Pledge of Allegiance
- ◆ Informational – AI Reflection Tool – Dr. Matt Callison
- ◆ Facilities Update – Dan Engen, DRAW Collective

#### I. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the Minutes from the following Board Meetings:

Committee Meeting	October 17, 2023
Regular Meeting	October 23, 2023

2. Approval of the following Financial Reports which have been reviewed by the Superintendent and Secondary Administration:

Athletic Fund	Mark Keener
High School Activity Fund	Sharon Aprea
Middle School Activity Fund	Sharon Aprea
<b>Board Summary Reports</b>	<b>Brian Tony</b>
<b>(July 2023-October 2023)</b>	

3. The Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Tax Collector Kevin Biber recommend Board approval of the provided list of Real Estate Refunds due to reduction in assessment and/or overpayment.
4. **Authorization for payment of monthly invoices from the General Fund for the amount \$1,161,669.90 beginning with check number 76071 through check number 76357 and the Cafeteria Fund for the amount of \$171,118.45 beginning with check number 8612 through check number 8627.**

#### SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

The Board will hear comments from residents and/or taxpayers related to items appearing on the Agenda for action by the Board. The Board will receive comments from residents and/or taxpayers on topics that do not appear on the agenda for action by the Board at the conclusion of the agenda, prior to adjournment. The time limit for comments shall not exceed three (3) minutes. The Board will not respond to questions during this session, but will only hear comments. (As per revised Policy 006 – “Meetings” adopted April 26, 2022)

**Old Business**

**New Business**

**Superintendent's Monthly Report – Dr. Michelle Miller**

**Student Representative's Monthly Report – Ms. Alekhya Buragadda**

**II. BUSINESS OFFICE**

At the Committee Meeting on November 21, 2023, the Board of School Directors acted on the following item:

Iriti seconded Vezzi on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for retroactive Board approval to purchase a new Box Truck for Food Service and general deliveries around campus and for use by the Little Green Machine, at a Co-Stars price of \$72,586. The cost will be shared between Food Service and the Little Green Machine.

Voice Vote – All Yes

1. In accordance with Act 1 of 2006, the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval of the resolution for any property tax increase for the 2024-2025 fiscal year not to exceed the district's base index of 7.0%. A copy of the approved resolution will be filed with the Pennsylvania Department of Education in accordance with the provision of Act 1 of 2006. By doing so, the Board adopts Resolution 23-03 Not to Exceed the Index.
2. The Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval of Resolution 23-04, for the District to continue participation in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Board for 2023-2024 school year.
3. The Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler recommend Board approval to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit to provide access to written translation through an AI portal to support non-English speaking parents and families effective for one year beginning January 10, 2024. The cost is a one-time annual fee of \$500.

**III. PERSONNEL**

At the Committee Meeting on November 21, 2023, the Board of School Directors acted on the following item:

Iagnemma seconded Iriti on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler and Administrators for Board approval to hire Natasha Dirda as the High School Principal at the salary rate of \$135,000, prorated for the 2023-2024 school year, with an effective date to be determined, in accordance with the Act 93 Agreement.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Welch seconded Vezzi on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler for retroactive Board approval to hire Tara Savisky as a Classroom

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Paraeducator in the Middle School, effective November 13, 2023, at the probationary rate of \$16.09 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$20.11 per hour.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire Katlyn Ross as a Long Term Substitute Guidance Counselor in the Elementary School, pending receipt of required documents, effective on or about December 11, 2023, at the rate of \$160.00 per day.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to revise the salary for Maureen Kings, Permanent Substitute Guidance Counselor in the Middle School, to Master's +45 Step 1 rate of \$54,400, prorated, effective retroactive to October 30, 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the following (call as needed) substitute support personnel for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Melinda Weishner, Food Service at the rate of \$9.25 per hour
- Leslie Willetts, Bus Aide at the prevailing rate of \$21.32 per hour
- Asra Syeda, Bus Aide at the rate of \$21.32 per hour
- Bhagya Chekka, Student Monitor at the rate of \$10.00 per hour, Clerical at the rate of \$11.00 per hour, Paraeducator at the rate of \$12.50 per hour, and Personal Care Paraeducator at the rate of \$13.50 per hour

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of following EPRs for the 2023-2024 school year:

Mentor Teacher for Katelyn Ross	Molly Kuczinski
High School Speech & Debate Club	Mary Quirk
Nurse – Middle School Mini MiniThon – effective February 23, 2024	Misty Menarcheck
Extra-curricular Personal Care Paraeducator – HS Powder Puff Football, effective November 15	Angela Vogel

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Food Service Tricia Wood for Board approval to hire Gina Montani as Food Service employee, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, at the probationary rate of \$12.61 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$15.76 per hour.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principals for Board approval of the resignation of Meghan Schneider as a High School Building Substitute. Ms. Schneider's last day worked will be November 29, 2023.

#### Voice Vote

1. The Superintendent and Elementary School Principals recommend Board approval to hire Jonathan Barsotti as an Elementary Building Substitute teacher, effective for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year, at the rate of \$150.00 per day.
2. The Superintendent and Intermediate School Principals recommend Board approval of the leave of absence request for Brittany Lunn, Grade 3 teacher in the Intermediate School, effective on or about December 21, 2023.
3. The Superintendent and Intermediate School Principals recommend Board approval of the leave of absence request for Elizabeth Bell, Grade 5 teacher in the Intermediate School, effective on or about March 5, 2024.

4. The Superintendent and Intermediate School Principals recommend Board approval of the extension of current sabbatical leave of absence request for Molly Kurnal, Grade 4 teacher in the Intermediate School effective for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year, pending receipt of required documents.
5. The Superintendent and Facilities Director Steve Timmins recommend Board approval of the FMLA leave of absence request for Karla Armentrout, Custodian in the High School, with an effective date to be determined.
6. The Superintendent and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie recommend Board approval of the resignation of Andrea Slebonick as a Bus Driver effective retroactive to November 1, 2023.
7. The Superintendent and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie recommend Board approval of the resignation of Jessica Guest as a Bus Driver effective retroactive to November 9, 2023.
8. The Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval of the retirement/resignation of Patricia Wood as the Director of Food Service, effective June 30, 2024. Ms. Wood has been employed by the District since October 2002.
9. The Superintendent recommends Board approval of the retirement/resignation of Cynthia Geisler as the Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and School Board Secretary. Mrs. Geisler's last day worked will be July 5, 2024. Mrs. Geisler has been employed by the District since September 2006.
10. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler recommend Board approval for Thomas McClain, a student from Slippery Rock University, to complete his student teaching with Sara Cremonese, Phys Ed teacher in the Middle School, effective January 16, 2024 through May 2, 2024, pending receipt of required documents. There will be no cost to the District.
11. The Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Facilities Director Steve Timmins recommend Board approval of the Substitute Custodian rate of \$14.00 per hour, effective December 1, 2023.
12. The Superintendent and Athletic Director Mark Keener recommend Board approval of the resignation of Joe Rossi as the Head Varsity Football Coach effective for the 2024-2025 season. Coach Rossi has been the District's Head Varsity Football Coach since 2007.
13. The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler recommend Board approval of Joe Silhanek as the Head Coach Unified Bocce effective for the 2023-2024 season.
14. The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, along with Head Football Coach Joe Rossi, Head Volleyball Coach Scott Sundgren, Head Boys Golf Coach Bob Ruffolo, Head Boys Soccer Coach Rob Eldridge, Head Girls Soccer Coach Nick Rosser, Head Girls Golf Coach Rocky Violi, Head Cross Country Coach Joe Winans, Head Girls Basketball Coach Bryan Bennett, Head Cheerleading Coach Maggie Conosciuto, and Head Girls Tennis Coach Victoria Chagnon recommend Board approval of the following compensations for the fall 2023 season:

**Football**

Head Coach	Joe Rossi	\$11,625.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Ben Maracek	\$5,800.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Mike Slencak	\$5,700.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Bruce Fronk	\$5,300.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Ryan Faraci	\$5,300.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Tom Stilley	\$5,200.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Kraig King	\$5,300.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Marty Speiler	\$5,300.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	T.J. Matrascia	\$5,000.00
Head 7/8th Grade Coach	Rick Chaussard	\$3,800.00
Assistant 7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Coach	Wesley Chappel	\$3,800.00
Assistant 7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Coach	Josh Patterson	\$3,600.00
Assistant 7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Coach	Trevor McIntyre	\$2,130.00

**Girls Volleyball**

Head Coach	Scott Sundgren	\$8,390.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Danielle Rudolph	\$ 600.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Riley Pawlosky	\$4,300.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Justine Yanosik	\$4,000.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Micki Cerchairo	\$1,800.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Morgan Ziolkowski	\$3,300.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Casey Holp	\$1,400.00

**Boys Golf**

Head Coach	Bob Ruffolo	\$5,665.00
Assistant Coach	Shane Coyne	\$2,980.00

**Boys Soccer**

Head Coach	Rob Eldridge	\$8,390.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Joe Luxbacher	\$7,400.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	James Kita	\$5,020.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Nolan Levine	\$7,400.00
Head 7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Coach	William Finnerty	\$5,275.00

**Girls Soccer**

Head Coach	Nick Rosser	\$8,390.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Jayne Fittipaldo	\$6,000.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Sabrina Bryan	\$4,000.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Camille Holzschuh	\$3,500.00
Head 7/8th Grade Coach	Nicole Bianco	\$5,000.00
Assistant 7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Coach	Stephanie Kramer	\$3,500.00

**Girls Golf**

Head Coach	Rocky Violi	\$5,665.00
Assistant Coach	Matt Bacco	\$2,980.00

**Cross Country (Boys/Girls)**

Head Coach	Joe Winans	\$7,005.00
Assistant Varsity Coach	Julia Denison	\$2,653.00
Head 7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Coach	Aaron Pfeil	\$2,652.00

**7/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball**

Head 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Coach	Keith Froelich	\$3,500.00
Head 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Coach	Garrett Del Re	\$3,500.00

**Girls Tennis**

Head Coach	Victoria Chagnon	\$4,825.00
Assistant Coach	Alexis Deyarmin	\$2,445.00

**Assistant Athletic Directors**

Matt Bacco should receive half of his pay in December 2023, which is \$2,652.50 (half of \$5,305.00). The other half will be paid in June 2024.

Olesia Stasko should receive half of her pay in December 2023, which is \$2,652.50 (half of \$5,305.00). The other half will be paid in June 2024.

**Cheerleading**

**Competitive Cheerleading**

Maggie Conoscuito Should receive half of her pay in December 2023 which is \$1,512.50 (half of \$3,025.00). The other half will be paid in June 2024.

Elizabeth Frambes Should receive half of her pay in December 2023 which is \$1,100.00 (half of \$2,200.00). The other half will be paid in June 2024.

Amanda Moon Should receive half of her pay in December 2023 which is \$500.00 (half of \$1,000.00). The other half will be paid in June 2024.

**Team Cheerleading**

Maggie Conoscuito Should receive half of her pay in December 2023 which is \$3,387.50 (half of \$6,775.00). The other half will be paid in June 2024.

Chris Stilley Should receive half of her pay in December 2023 which is \$750.00 (half of \$1,500.00). The other half will be paid in June 2024.

Elizabeth Frambes Should receive half of her pay in December 2023 which is \$500.00 (half of \$1,000.00). The other half will be paid in June 2024.

Amanda Moon Should receive half of her pay in December 2023 which is \$1,850.00 (half of \$3,700.00). The other half will be paid in June 2024.

Laura Nagel & Stephanie Harris Should receive half of their pays in December 2023 which is \$1,250.00 (half of \$2,500.00). The other half will be paid in June 2024.

**New motions from the November 28, 2023 Executive Session agenda.**

1. The Superintendent recommends Board approval of the retirement/resignation of the Director of Finance/HR, effective fall of 2024 or a date to be determined. The employee has been employed by the District since September 2009.
2. The Superintendent and Director of Finance/HR recommend Board approval of the resignation of the Business Office Accountant. The employee's last day worked will be December 15, 2023.

3. The Superintendent and Facilities Director recommend Board approval of the resignation of a Custodian. The employee's last day worked will be November 30, 2023.
4. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of (call as needed) substitute teachers and support personnel for the 2023-2024 school year.

#### **IV. EDUCATION**

1. The Superintendent and Director of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships Dr. Matt Callison recommend approval of the Educational Project Agreement with Carnegie Mellon University for a potential project with South Fayette High School and high school students who elect to participate, effective January 2024 through August 2024. There is no cost to the District as the \$85,000 participation fee is waived. *(pending revisions as identified by the solicitor)*
2. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler recommend Board approval of the College in High School Enrollment Agreement with Point Park University effective retroactive to October 10, 2023. There is no cost to the District. *(pending revisions as identified by the solicitor)*

#### **V. TRANSPORTATION**

1. There are no items to discuss.

#### **VI. ATHLETICS**

1. The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Varsity Baseball Coach Ken Morgan recommend Board approval for the Boys Junior Varsity and Varsity Baseball teams to travel to Tampa, Florida, to play in a baseball tournament. The team would depart from South Fayette, tentatively on Thursday, March 21, 2024, and tentatively return on Monday, March 25, 2024. Students will be responsible for all school work during their absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. There will be no cost to the district. The tentative itinerary is attached.
2. The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener and Head Girls Varsity Softball Coach Olesia Stasko recommend Board approval for the Girls Varsity Softball team to travel to Cocoa Beach, Florida, to play in a softball tournament. The team would depart South Fayette, tentatively, on Friday, March 15, 2024, and tentatively return on Wednesday, March 20, 2024. Students will be responsible for all school work during their absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. There will be no cost to the district. The tentative itinerary is attached.
3. The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Varsity Indoor Track and Field Coach Scott Litwinovich recommend Board approval for the Varsity Boys and Girls Indoor Track and Field teams to travel to State College, Pennsylvania, Friday and Saturday, January 5-6, 2024, to participate in an indoor track tournament. Students will be responsible for all school work during absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. There is no cost to the District.
4. The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Varsity Indoor Track and Field Coach Scott Litwinovich recommend Board approval to permit the Girls and Boys Varsity Indoor Track teams to travel to the following indoor track meets. Appropriate adult

to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. The District will supply transportation to and from the meets:

**Spire (Geneva, Ohio)**

December 8, 2023  
February 4, 2024

**Youngstown State University**

January 13, 2024  
January 20, 2024  
February 10, 2024  
February 17, 2024

5. **The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Varsity Cheerleading Coach Maggie Conosciuto recommend Board approval to permit the Varsity Competitive Cheerleaders to travel to Orlando, Florida to compete in the UCA High School Nationals in Walt Disney World. The team would depart South Fayette, tentatively, on Thursday, February 8, 2024, and tentatively, return on Tuesday, February 13, 2024. Students will be responsible for all school work during their absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. There will be no cost to the District. (*information provided*)**

**VII. CONSTRUCTION**

1. There are no additional items to discuss.

**VIII. MISCELLANEOUS**

1. The Superintendent and Solicitor recommend Board ratification of the following motions that were approved at the October 17, 2024 Committee Meeting of the Whole:
  - a. The motion to approve DRAW Collective to submit Requests for Proposals for a Land Survey: Phase 1 Environmental, Wetland Delineation & Preliminary Grading Analysis
2. The Superintendent and Solicitor recommend Board ratification of the following motions that were approved at the October 24, 2024 Regular Meeting:
  - b. The motion to hire Daxa Patel and Deepa Mohandass as Student Monitors in the Intermediate School, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year at the probationary rate of \$12.22 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period the rate will be \$15.27 per hour.
  - c. The motion to hire Carolina Cappetta as an Intermediate School Building Substitute teacher, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, at the rate of \$150.00 per day.
  - d. The motion to accept the quotation from Civil and Environmental Consultants to perform land surveys for the master plan as presented in the amount of \$101,000.
3. The Superintendent and Solicitor recommend Board approval of the second reading of revised Policy 204 Attendance.

**SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS**

The Board will hear comments from residents and/or taxpayers. The time limit of comments will not exceed three (3) minutes. The Board will not respond to questions during this session, but will only hear public comment. (As per revised Policy 006 – “Meetings” adopted April 26, 2022)

**Solicitor's Report**



**Board Comments**

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

<b>A. Executive Committee Report</b>	<b>President Fornella</b>
<b>B. South Fayette Foundation</b>	<b>Paul Brinsky</b>
<b>C. PSBA/Legislative Committee Report</b>	<b>Lena Hannah</b>
<b>D. Parkway West</b>	<b>Tom Iagnemma</b>
<b>E. SHASDA</b>	<b>Joe Welch</b>

**Suspend**

**An Executive Session may be held to discuss personnel and/or legal issues.**