



# South Fayette Township School District

## Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 27, 2024  
7:30 PM

### AGENDA

#### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – President Tom Iagnemma

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Recognition – 18 Under 18 Recipients
  - ✓ Seniors Alekhya Buragadda and Prerna Chakkingal – Dr. Natasha Dirda
  - ✓ 6th grader Daniella Neve – Dr. Erin Crimone
- Presentation – 2022-2023 Audit – Steve Neidenberger, Hosack, Specht, Muetzel, & Wood, LLP
- 2024-2025 Budget Presentations:
  - ✓ High School – Dr. Natasha Dirda, Robert Butts
  - ✓ Middle School – Dr. Erin Crimone, Dr. Kevin Maurer
  - ✓ Intermediate School – Tom Kaminski, Kristen Johnson
  - ✓ Elementary School – Tyler Geist, Pharlan Ives
- Facilities Update – ES and IS Projects, Dan Engen, DRAW Collective

#### I. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from the following Board Meetings:

Committee Meeting of the Board	Tuesday, January 16, 2024
Regular Board Meeting	Tuesday, January 23, 2024

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

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 \$1,375,891.15 beginning with check number 76741 through check number 77060, the Cafeteria Fund for the amount of \$78,761.53 beginning with check number 8648 through check number 8657, and the Construction Fund for the amount of \$54,798.75 with check number 0041.**

#### 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 Buraqadda**

**II. BUSINESS OFFICE**

1. The Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler recommend Board approval of the adoption of policies, procedures, and use of IDEA-Part B funds by the School District per the agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for the 2024-2025 school year.
2. The Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie recommend Board approval of the proposal to purchase the following six new buses through a SourceWell vendor. The total costs will be included in the 2024-2025 budget.

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Pass Size</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Price Per</b>	<b>Total</b>
Blue Bird of Pittsburgh	72 Passenger	3	\$128,918.00	\$386,754.00
Blue Bird of Pittsburgh	84 Passenger	1	\$153,258.00	\$153,258.00
Blue Bird of Pittsburgh	Micro-22	1	\$ 95,721.00	\$ 95,721.00
Blue Bird of Pittsburgh	Micro/Unlit-9	1	\$ 89,863.00	\$ 89,863.00
				\$725,596.00

3. **The Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval of the 2022-2023 School District Audit as prepared by Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood, LLP.**
4. **The Superintendent recommends Board approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Agreement with Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium (MAEC), (pending review by the Solicitor), to continue the District's work focusing on enhancing family engagement, effective March 1, 2024 through September 1, 2024. MAEC will use grant sources to provide \$18,000 worth of services, with the District paying a maximum of \$2,880 to offset presenter travel costs.**
5. **The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler recommend Board approval of the Concurrent Enrollment Agreement (pending review by the Solicitor) with Carlow University effective February 28, 2024 through the 2025-2026 academic year. There will be no cost to the District.**

### III. PERSONNEL

At the Committee Meeting on February 20, 2024, the Board of School Directors acted on the following seven items:

Bruce seconded Welch on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the following (call as needed) substitute teachers, pending receipt of required documents, for the 2023-2024 school year:

- William Humlan, SmartStart Program
- Jonah Philipp, English 7-12
- Mackenzie Timco, Early Childhood PreK-12/Special Education PreK-12

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie for Board approval to hire Michele Anne Cygnarowicz as a bus driver, pending receipt of required documents, effective retroactive to February 12, 2024, at the probationary rate of \$24.47 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$30.59 per hour.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire Lalitapriya Narra as a Classroom Paraeducator in the Middle School, effective retroactive to January 26, 2024, at the probationary rate of \$16.09 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period the rate will be \$20.11 per hour. This is position due to a resignation.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire the following as Building Substitute teachers, at the rate of \$150.00 per day:

- Mackenzie Timco in the Middle School, effective retroactive to February 14, 2024
- Cameron Meier in the High School, effective February 21, 2024, pending receipt of required documents

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler for Board approval for Olivia Garfold, a student from CCAC, to complete her 10 hours of classroom observations with Ryan Schoenberger, Grade 5 teacher in the Intermediate School, pending receipt of required documents, effective February 21, 2024 through April 11, 2024. There is no cost to the District.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Food Service Tricia Wood for Board approval of the resignation of Gina Montani as a Food Service employee in the High School. Ms. Montani's last day worked was February 2, 2024.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Girls Volleyball Coach Scott Sundgren for Board approval of Tara Savisky as an Assistant Middle School Girls Volleyball Coach, effective retroactive to February 7, 2024.

#### Voice Vote – All Yes

1. The Superintendent and Intermediate School Principals recommend Board approval to hire **Rachel Hazuda** as a Long Term Substitute Grade 5 teacher in the Intermediate School in the Intermediate School, effective February 28, 2024, pending receipt of required documents.
2. The Superintendent and Elementary School Principal Tyler Geist recommend Board approval of the resignation of Kylee Phillips as a Special Education teacher in the Elementary School, effective March 1, 2024.

3. The Superintendent and Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski recommend Board approval of the leave of absence request for Dana Greer, Grade 3 teacher in the Intermediate School, effective on or about May 15, 2024.
4. The Superintendent and Middle School Principal Dr. Erin Crimone recommend Board approval of the intermittent FMLA leave of absence request for Misty Menarcheck, Middle School Nurse. Her first day was January 11, 2024.
5. The Superintendent and Middle School Principal Dr. Erin Crimone recommend Board approval of the leave of absence request for Alexandra Toras, Consumer Science teacher in the Middle School, effective on or about April 20, 2024
6. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of following EPRs:

Mentor Teacher for Delaney Mangis, effective retroactive to 12/11/2023	Colleen English
Extra-curricular Personal Care Paraeducators – HS Mardi Gras Dance, effective 2/16/2024	Myriam Fowler Terry Oberst
Extra-curricular Nurse – HS Mardi Gras Dance, effective 2/16/2024	Misty Menarcheck
Extra-curricular Paraeducator – MS Mini-MiniTHON, effective 2/23/2024	Terry Oberst
Extra-curricular Personal Care Paraeducators – HS MiniTHON, effective 4/26/2024-4/27/2024	Christine Magdich Leslie Willetts
<b>Mentor Teacher for Rachel Hazuda</b>	<b>Mark Kuglar</b>

7. The Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, Facilities Director Steve Timmins, and Custodial Shift Supervisor Josh Wasserman recommend Board approval to hire Austin Pilato as a full-time custodian, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, at the probationary rate of \$14.57 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$18.21 per hour.
8. The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and the Head Boys Varsity Tennis Coach, Brian Garlick, recommend Board approval of Marla Zielinski as a Volunteer Assistant Boys Tennis Coach, effective for the 2024 spring season.
9. The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and the winter sport season Head Coaches recommend Board approval of the following compensations for the winter 2023-2024 season:

**Boys Basketball**

Dave Mislán	Head Coach	\$10,575.00
Frank Halloran	Assistant Coach	\$ 6,000.00
Josh Patterson	Assistant Coach	\$ 6,790.00
Jared Knox	Assistant Coach	\$ 3,500.00
Brandon Orosz	Assistant Coach	\$ 3,500.00
Glenn Gutierrez	Head 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Coach	\$ 4,000.00
Tanner Jones	Head 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Coach	\$ 3,000.00

**Girls Basketball**

Bryan Bennett	Head Coach	\$10,575.00
Olesia Stasko	Assistant Coach	\$ 6,597.00
Sarah McMurtry	Assistant Coach	\$ 6,596.00
Garrett Del Re	Assistant Coach	\$ 6,597.00

**Winter Indoor Track**

Scott Litwinovich	Head Coach	\$3,740.00
Joe Winans	Assistant Coach	\$1,870.00
William Finnerty	Assistant Coach	\$1,870.00

**Varsity Swimming**

Todd Clark	Head Coach	\$10,575.00
Melanie Miller	Assistant Coach	\$ 3,500.00
Gianna Boburka	Assistant Coach	\$ 3,400.00
Anthony Mannarino	Assistant Coach & Diving	\$ 5,600.00

**Wrestling**

Rick Chaussard	Head Coach	\$8,895.00
Jarod Walker	Assistant Coach	\$3,700.00
Josh Mollica	Assistant Coach	\$3,700.00
Trevor McIntyre	Head Jr. High Coach	\$4,200.00
Jason Santavicca	Assistant Coach (Jr. High)	\$1,005.00
Keith Lau	Assistant Coach (Jr. High)	\$2,500.00

10. The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Varsity Football Coach, Marty Spieler recommend Board approval of the following football coaches for the 2024 season:

Assistant Varsity Coach	Alex Dennison
Assistant Varsity Coach	Vincent Ziccardi
Assistant Varsity Coach	Chris Saluga
Assistant Varsity Coach	Ryan Faraci
Assistant Varsity Coach	Tom Stilley
Assistant Varsity Coach	T.J. Matrascia
Assistant Varsity Coach	Bruce Fronk
Assistant Varsity Coach	Garrett Sekanick
Assistant Varsity Coach	Joe Franjione
<b>Assistant Football Coach</b>	<b>Austin McClinton</b>
Volunteer Assistant Coach	Michael Slencak
Head Middle School Coach	Rick Chaussard
Assistant Middle School Coach	Josh Patterson
Assistant Middle School Coach	Wes Chappel
Assistant Middle School Coach	Trevor McIntyre
Volunteer Assistant Middle School Coach	Paul Hartz
Volunteer Assistant Middle School Coach	Tom Patterson
Volunteer Assistant Middle School Coach	Ishan Rayka

**For Minute purposes, the Superintendent proudly announces that tenure has been earned by the following teacher who has been employed since February 2021, and has fulfilled all requirements as set forth in Pennsylvania School Code, Title 24, PS 11-1108.**

- **Claire McCourt, French teacher, Middle School**

**New motions from the February 27, 2024 Executive Session agenda.**

1. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent recommend Board approval for a student from Duquesne University to complete 15 hours of classroom observations with a Social Studies teacher in the High School, pending receipt of required documents, effective February 28, 2024 through April 25, 2024. There is no cost to the District.
2. The Superintendent and Athletic Director recommend Board approval of an Assistant Middle School Track Coach, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 season.

**IV. EDUCATION**

At the Committee Meeting on February 20, 2024, the Board of School Directors acted on the following five items:

Welch seconded Cardillo on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Dr. Natasha Dirda for Board approval to permit Christine Elek, High School Choir Director to chaperone three students participating in the PMEA Region 1 All-State Chorus Festival at Mars Area High School from Wednesday, March 6, 2024 through Friday, March 8, 2024. Students would be responsible for making up all school work during their absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration and PMEA. The cost of the trip includes travel, lodging, and meals and are included in the 2023-2024 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Dr. Natasha Dirda for Board approval to permit James Hausman to accompany approximately 26 students participating in the 2024 Penn HOSA State Leadership Conference being held at the Wyndam Lancaster Resort and Convention Center in Lancaster, Pennsylvania from Wednesday, March 13, 2024 through Friday, March 15, 2024. Students would be responsible for making up all school work during their absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. The cost of the trip includes travel, lodging, meals, and conference registration fees and are included in the 2023-2024 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Dr. Natasha Dirda for Board approval to permit James Hausman and two additional chaperones to accompany approximately 100 students participating in the 2024 Pennsylvania Technology Student Association (TSA) State Competition being held at Seven Springs Resort in Seven Springs, Pennsylvania from Wednesday, April 17, 2024 through Saturday, April 20, 2024. Students would be responsible for making up all school work during their absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. The cost of the trip includes travel, lodging, meals, and conference registration fees and are included in the 2023-2024 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Dr. Natasha Dirda for Board approval to permit Mary Quirk, Jacqueline Mannina, and Byan Sebert to accompany 19 students to participate in the 2024 FBLA State Leadership Conference in Hershey, Pennsylvania from Sunday, April 7, 2024 through Wednesday, April 10, 2024. Students would be responsible for making up all school work during their absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. The cost of the trip includes travel, lodging, meals, and registration fees, which are included in the 2023-2024 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Athletic Director Mark Keener for Board approval for a trial Girls Flag Football Club in the High School during the months of April and May of 2024. This program will be

supported by the Pittsburgh Steelers organization with custom jerseys for up to 25 participants, equipment, and financial support of \$3,000 (includes stipend for coach(es)) in the first season. In its second season (late spring of 2025), the Steelers organization will provide the district with financial support of \$1500 (includes partial stipend for coach(es)).

Voice Vote – All Yes

1. The Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler recommend Board approval for the Allegheny Health Network's The Chill Project to operate a summer program at the Middle School. The program will be held from Monday, June 24, 2024 through Thursday, July 25, 2024. The session will run Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM for students in grades 1-6. This is open to anyone, but South Fayette residents will have priority registration. There is no cost to the District. Allegheny Health Network will be charged a rental fee.
2. The Superintendent, Director of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships Dr. Matt Callison, and Director of Curriculum Cristine Wagner-Deitch recommend Board approval for the District to host a Future-Focused Learning Summit on October 14, 2024. There will be no cost to the District.
3. The Superintendent and High School Principal Dr. Natasha Dirda recommend Board approval of the list of 2024 potential graduates, based on fulfilling all requirements for graduation.
4. The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler, and Elementary School Principal Tyler Geist recommend Board approval of the AIU Transition MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) to support best practices in transition to kindergarten in the South Fayette Township School District, effective for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years. This MOU also fulfills the Hi5! and state and federal requirements for kindergarten transition under the Every Student Succeeds Act/Title I.
5. The Superintendent and Director of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships Dr. Matt Callison recommend Board approval of the Teaching Channel Video Partnership Agreement permitting the Teaching Channel to video tape specific content subjects and themes to be used in the Teaching Channel's video library. The District will have access to all film materials for up to 10 years. Filming will begin in the spring of 2024 and there is no cost to the District.
6. The Superintendent and Director of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships Dr. Matt Callison recommend Board approval of an AI Mirror by Swivl as a pilot reflection tool for grades K-2.
7. The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler, and Middle School Principal Dr. Erin Crimone recommend Board approval of changes to the Middle School Program of Studies, effective for the 2024-2025 school year.
8. The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler, and High School Principal Dr. Natasha Dirda recommend Board approval of the proposed recommendations **and additional changes** in the High School Program of Studies, effective for the 2024-2025 school year. **(information provided)**
9. **The Superintendent recommends Board approval for Tara Surloff, High School teacher to attend the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) Never is Now conference in New York City, New York, from Wednesday, March 6, 2024 through Friday, March 8, 2024. The costs to the District will be for the conference registration and a substitute teacher for three days. Travel, lodging, and food costs will be the responsibility of Mrs. Surloff.**

10. **The Superintendent and Director of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships Dr. Matt Callison recommend Board approval for Shad Wachter, Technology Literacy teacher in the Intermediate School to attend the ISTE Live Conference in Denver, Colorado, from Sunday, June 23, 2024 through Thursday, June 27, 2024. The costs are included in the 2023-2024 budget.**

**V. TRANSPORTATION**

1. There are no additional items to discuss.

**VI. ATHLETICS**

At the Committee Meeting on February 20, 2024, the Board of School Directors acted on the following item:

Welch seconded Fornella on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Athletic Director Mark Keener for Board approval to permit members of the Indoor Track & Field team to travel to Boston, Massachusetts to participate in the New Balance Indoor Nationals from Thursday, March 7, 2024 through Sunday, March 10, 2024. Students would be responsible for making up all school work during their absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. The cost of the trip includes travel, lodging, meals, and registration fees and will be paid for by the Boosters.

Voice Vote – All Yes

**VII. CONSTRUCTION**

1. The Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval for DRAW Collective to proceed with the design documents for the Intermediate School Additions and Alterations Project.

**VIII. MISCELLANEOUS**

1. The Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval of the second reading of revised Board Policy 610 Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation.
2. The Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval of the second reading of revised Board Policy 611 Purchases Budgeted.
3. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of the current Health & Safety Plan to remain in place. This plan is required to remain in place due to the district receiving PCCD funding.

**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 Iagnemma</b>
<b>B. South Fayette Foundation</b>	<b>Jennifer Iriti</b>
<b>C. PSBA/Legislative Committee Report</b>	<b>Prajakta Patankar</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.**