



# South Fayette Township School District

## Regular Meeting

Tuesday, April 23, 2024  
7:30 PM

### AGENDA

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

- Pledge of Allegiance

#### I. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes from the following Board Meetings:

Committee Meeting	Tuesday, February 20, 2024
Regular Meeting	Tuesday, February 27, 2024
Committee Meeting	Tuesday, March 19, 2024
Regular Meeting	Tuesday, March 26, 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
Board Summary Reports (January 2024 – March 2024)	Brian Tony

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 \$1,016,233.18 beginning with check number 77289 through check number 77466 and the Cafeteria Fund for the amount of \$60,634.72 beginning with check number 8675 through check number 8688.**

#### 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 April 16, 2024, the Board of School Directors acted on the following four items:

Cardillo seconded Iriti on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for retroactive Board approval of the engagement letter with Integra Realty Resources to provide appraisals for two different break-outs of the Property identified as Lot and Block No. 327-G-0002, located on Sygan Road.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Solicitor Chris Voltz for Board approval of the Settlement Agreement with Alpine Flex 2 LLC, for the District to grant Alpine Flex 2 LLC LERTA tax relief for all five years (the years indicated on the Settlement Agreement).

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to hire Tower Engineering to provide a quote for the replacement of the HVAC and related equipment for the pool area in the Middle School.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the decision on the Application for LERTA Tax Abatement submitted by Alpine Flex 2 LLC, on February 17, 2023, for construction or reconstruction of the improvements at Block/Lot 482-G-5, resulting in a reduction in the assessed value of the improvements as follows:

TAX YEAR	PERCENT EXEMPTION	AMOUNT of EXEMPTION
1st Tax Year (2024-2025)	100%	\$ 2,702,700
2nd Tax Year (2025-2026)	80%	\$ 2,162,160
3rd Tax Year (2026-2027)	60%	\$ 1,621,620
4th Tax Year (2027-2028)	40%	\$ 1,081,080
5th Tax Year (2028-2029)	20%	\$ 540,540

Beginning with tax year 2029-2030, the assessed value of the improvements at Block/Lot 482-G-5 shall be fully taxable at 100% of their assessed value.

Voice Vote – All Yes

1. The Superintendent, Director of Technology Rob Warfield, and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval of a Fair Market Value (FMV) 1:1 Lease of 1,200 student laptops for the High School, 100 staff laptops Districtwide, and 30 all-in-one computers for the Middle School Computer Lab at an annual amount not to exceed **\$253,039.48**, for fifty-one (51) months with Dell Financial. This is included in the proposed 2024-2025 budget.

2. The Superintendent, Director of Technology Rob Warfield, and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval of a Tax-Exempt Lease Purchase (TELP) for 70 new Dell Chromebooks for District staff (paraeducators) and ten (10) Dell Latitudes for maintenance and transportation staff at an annual amount not to exceed **\$14,422.13** for fifty-three (53) months with Dell Financial, with a \$1.00 buyout at the end of the 53-month lease. This Lease Purchase is included in the proposed 2024-2025 budget.
3. The Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and the Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler recommend Board approval of the MOU between the District and PA Connecting Communities, to provide post-secondary transition services to students, effective for the 2024-2025 school year. The costs will be covered by the District's Transition Discoveries grant.
4. **The Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval of the proposal from Tower Engineering. The construction allocation will be \$494,000 (Base Bid, Pool HVAC, and Pool Heater). The Professional Services fee will be a lump sum of \$53,300.**

### III. PERSONNEL

At the Committee Meeting on April 16, 2024, the Board of School Directors acted on the following 11 items:

Welch seconded Fornella on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Food Services Tricia Wood for Board approval to hire the following as Food Service employees, pending receipt of required documents, effective April 17, 2024, at the probationary rate of \$12.61 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$15.76 per hour.

- Christopher Papale
- Deepa Mohandass

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Dr. Natasha Dirda for Board approval of the resignation of Jesse Gagich as a BCIT teacher in the High School effective retroactive to April 5, 2024.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Dr. Natasha Dirda for Board approval of the resignation of Robert Butts as the Assistant Principal in the High School. Mr. Butts last day worked will be May 24, 2024.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the resignation of Tracey Fox as the Payroll Administrator. Mrs. Fox's last day worked will be April 30, 2024.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the motion to terminate the employment of Maggie Desmond, Business Office Accountant, effective April 16, 2024.

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

- Christopher Papale, Bus Aide at the rate of \$8.65 per hour, Custodial at the rate of \$14.00 per hour, Food Transport at the rate of \$14.00 per hour

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

Nurse – TSA Conference (effective April 17-20, 2024)	Kara Miles
Mentor Teacher – Tara Savisky (effective retroactive to January 10, 2024 through March 21, 2024)	Jeremy Hall

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski for Board approval of the following as Building Substitutes in the Intermediate School, at the rate of \$150.00 per day:

- Daniel Sammons, effective retroactive to March 14, 2024
- Maura Pendergast, effective retroactive to April 3, 2024

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Middle School Principal Dr. Erin Crimone for Board approval to hire Bradley Parisi as a Building Substitute in the Middle School, pending receipt of required documents, at the rate of \$150.00 per day, effective April 17, 2024.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to hire Melissa Dennison as the Payroll Administrator, at the rate of \$65,000, prorated for the 2023-2024 school year, with an effective date to be determined. Mrs. Dennison will be eligible for an increase for the 2025-2026 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski for Board approval of the resignation of Stephanie Boburka as a Special Education teacher in the Intermediate School, effective April 19, 2024.

Voice Vote – All Yes

1. The Superintendent and Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski recommend Board approval of the FMLA leave of absence request for Terri Champ, Paraeducator in the Intermediate School, effective April 30, 2024.
2. The Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler recommend Board approval of the following personnel for the Extended School Year Program that will operate for 5 weeks in the summer of 2024:
  - Teachers at the rate of \$45.00 per hour, maximum 4.0 hours of instruction and planning per day:
    - ✓ Alexis Deyarmin
    - ✓ Jessica Kent
    - ✓ Sarah Nee
    - ✓ Molly Fuchs
    - ✓ April Schaming
    - ✓ Ben Laughton
  - Personal Care Paraeducators at the rate of \$21.96 per hour for the 2023-2024 school year and at the rate TBD per hour for the 2024-2025 school year, maximum 3.5 hours per day:
    - ✓ Anna Kuss
    - ✓ Teil Bruneau

- ✓ Nicolle Smith
  - ✓ Myriam Fowler
  - ✓ Cimi Vijay
  - ✓ Lisa Sweeney
  - ✓ Stacy Fleck
  - ✓ Cassidy Haid
  - ✓ Kara Garrubba
- Paraeducators at the rate of \$20.11 per hour for the 2023-2024 school year and at the rate TBD per hour for the 2024-2025 school year, maximum 3.5 hours per day:
    - ✓ Sarah Sweet
    - ✓ Sophia McNavish
    - ✓ Morgan Ciotti
    - ✓ Kathy Fischer
    - ✓ Patty Campanella
  - School Certified Nurse at the rate of \$45.00 per hour, maximum of 3.5 hours per day
    - ✓ Misty Menarcheck
3. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of the reappointment of Dr. Katelyn Woods, Pediatric Dentist, as the School District Dentist for the 2024-2025 school year. The services will be provided at no cost to the District.
  4. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval to reappoint Dr. Kevin Kotar, DO, Preferred Primary Care Physicians, as School District Physician for the 2024-2025 school year at the rate of \$150.00 per hour.
  5. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler recommend Board approval for Samantha Smith, a student at Duquesne University, to complete her student teaching with Jennifer Teta, Grade 1 teacher in the Elementary School, pending receipt of required documents, effective August 26, 2024 through December 6, 2024. There is no cost to the District.
  6. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler recommend Board approval for Maggie Butcher, a student at Duquesne University, to complete her student teaching with Charlotte Rudolph, Music teacher in the Intermediate School, pending receipt of required documents, effective September 3, 2024 through October 18, 2024. There is no cost to the District.
  7. The Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler recommend Board approval for Ashley Wentz, a student from Pennsylvania Western University, to complete her school psychology internship with Gretchen Tucci, School Psychologist/Assistant Director of Student Support Services, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2024-2025 school year. There will be no cost to the District.
  8. The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Varsity Cross Country Coach Joe Winans recommend Board approval of Matt Timcheck as the Head 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Cross Country Coach effective for the 2024-2025 season.
  9. The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, High School Principal Dr. Natasha Dirda, and the head winter season coaches recommend Board approval of the following coaches for the 2024-2025 season:

**Girls Basketball**

Head Coach	Bryan Bennett
Assistant Coach	Garret Del Re
Assistant Coach	Olesia Stasko
Assistant Coach	Sarah McMurtry
7th Grade Head Coach	Keith Froelich
8th Grade Head Coach	Garrett Del Re

**Boys Basketball**

Head Coach	Dave Mislan
Assistant Coach	Frank Halloran
Assistant Coach	Josh Patterson
Assistant Coach	Jared Knox
Assistant Coach	Brandon Orosz
7th Grade Head Coach	Tanner Jones
8th Grade Head Coach	Glen Gutierrez

**Wrestling**

Head Coach	Rick Chaussard
Assistant Coach	Jared Walker
Assistant Coach	Josh Mollica
Volunteer Assistant Coach	Robert Vettorai
Volunteer Assistant Coach	Jason Cardillo
Junior High Head Coach	Trevor McIntyre
Junior High Assistant Coach	Keith Lau
Junior High Assistant Coach	Jason Santavicca
Volunteer Junior High Asst. Coach	Barry Miller

**New motions from the April 23, 2024 Executive Session agenda.**

1. The Superintendent and Intermediate School Principal recommend Board approval to hire a Grade 3 Substitute teacher in the Intermediate School effective May 8, 2024 through the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
2. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent recommend Board approval for a student at Slippery Rock University, to complete their student teaching with a Grade 3 teacher in the Intermediate School, pending receipt of required documents, effective August 26, 2024 through December 12, 2024. There is no cost to the District.
3. The Superintendent and Intermediate School Principal recommend Board approval of the leave of absence request for a STEAM teacher in the Intermediate School, effective on or about June 20, 2024.
4. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of (call as needed) substitute teachers, pending receipt of required documents for the 2023-2024 school year.
5. The Superintendent, Director of Food Service, and Director of Transportation recommend Board approval of the retirement/resignation of a Food Service and Bus Aide employee. The employee's last day worked will be May 17, 2024.
6. The Superintendent and Director of Finance recommend Board approval to hire the Business Office Accountant. The effective date will be determined.

7. The Superintendent and Director of Finance recommend Board approval to hire a temporary Payroll Administrator, assisting with the payroll administrator duties and training until the new Payroll Administrator is fully trained, effective May 1, 2024 for hours worked.
8. The Superintendent and High School Principal recommend Board approval of the resignation an Art teacher in the High School effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

#### **IV. EDUCATION**

At the Committee Meeting on April 16, 2024, the Board of School Directors acted on the following four items:

Gray seconded Welch on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deicher for retroactive Board approval for Christina Crivelli, Intermediate School Orchestra Director, to attend the American String Teacher's Association National Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, from Wednesday, March 20, 2024 through Saturday, March, 23, 2024. The costs of the trip are included in the 2023-2024 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships for retroactive Board approval to permit Lynette Lortz, High School Computer Science teacher, to present at the 2024 NAPE National Summit for Education Equity Summit in Washington, DC. from Monday, April 8, 2024, through Thursday, April 11, 2024. Ms. Lortz will showcase South Fayette's Cybersecurity program alongside Digital Promise, IBM, and Paradigm Cyber Ventures at this national event. Funding for the conference registration, travel, lodging, and meals were provided by Digital Promise.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Dr. Natasha Dirda for Board approval to permit James Hausman and additional chaperones to be determined, to accompany four students attending the PennDOT Innovations Challenge in Harrisburg, PA, on Wednesday, May 1, 2024. Students will be responsible for all school work during their absence. The costs 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 additional chaperones to be determined, to accompany three students attending the PA Governor's STEM Competition in Harrisburg, PA, on Wednesday, May 8, 2024. Students will be responsible for all school work during their absence. The costs are included in the 2023-2024 budget.

#### Voice Vote – All Yes

1. The Superintendent, High School and Middle School Principals, and Director of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships recommend Board approval for AJ Mannarino and approved chaperones to accompany the High School STEAM Travel Group on an international trip to Japan from July 8 to 16, 2026. The trip will focus on Robotics, Engineering, and the Future of Cities. There will be no cost to the District.
2. The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler, and High School Principal Dr. Natasha Dirda recommend Board approval of the following as online course providers for the 2024-2025 school year. The costs will be included in the proposed 2024-2025 budget.
  - Educere
  - Edgenuity through Seneca Valley
  - University of Missouri
  - Waterfront Learning (AIU)

3. The Superintendent recommends Board approval for the Administration to submit for applicable federal and state grants, such as but not limited to: Title I; Title II; Title III; Title IV; Safe Schools Initiatives; STEAM; and Pennsylvania Ready to Learn Grants for the 2024-2025 school year.
4. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler recommend Board approval to offer a hybrid online Summer Remediation course for Algebra I. The program will run from June 10, 2024 through July 18, 2024. The cost to the parents would be \$300.00 for residents and \$320.00 for non-residents. Salary would be at the current contract EPR rate for 40 hours of instruction. If there are 6 students enrolled, the fees would cover costs; if fewer than 6 students are enrolled, the District would fund the difference.
5. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler recommend Board approval to offer a hybrid online Summer Remediation course for Geometry. The program will run from June 10, 2024 through July 18, 2024. The cost to the parents would be \$300.00 for residents and \$320.00 for non-residents. Salary would be at the current contract EPR rate for 40 hours of instruction. If there are 6 students enrolled, the fees would cover costs; if fewer than 6 students are enrolled, the District would fund the difference.
6. The Superintendent and Director of Innovation and Strategic Partnerships Dr. Matt Callison recommend Board approval for AJ Mannarino, Technology Education teacher in the Middle 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 items to discuss.

**VI. ATHLETICS**

1. There are no items to discuss.

**VII. CONSTRUCTION**

1. There are no items to discuss.

**VIII. MISCELLANEOUS**

1. The Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler recommend Board approval of the Special Education Plan 2024-2027 as required to be submitted to PDE.
2. Consider appointing Prajakta Patankar and \_\_\_\_\_ as delegates to participate in the PSBA Delegate Assembly meeting to be held on Saturday, November 2, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. This will be a hybrid event, allowing delegates to have the choice of attending in-person or via a zoom connection. The in-person attendance will be at PSBA Headquarters in Mechanicsburg, PA and available for the first 120 delegates who register for the in-person option. All remaining delegates will participate via Zoom.

**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.**