



South Fayette Township School District

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, August 22, 2023

7:30 PM

Studio, High School

REVISED AGENDA

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – President Len Fornella

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Swearing in of Newly Appointed School Board Director – The Honorable Maureen McGraw-Desmet, Magisterial District Judge
- **Introduction – Dr. Patricia Smith, Interim High School Principal – Dr. Miller**
- Informational – Credit Awarded for Parkway CTC Programming – Dr. Kristin Deichler

AGENDA APPROVAL:

1. The Superintendent and Solicitor recommend Board approval of the August 22, 2023, **revised** Regular Meeting agenda. **The following new motion was received and added today:**
 - **The Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services recommend Board approval to a Personal Care Paraeducator in the Elementary School, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year**

I. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Committee Meeting of the Whole	Tuesday, July 18, 2023
Regular Board Meeting	Tuesday, July 25, 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

3. Authorization for payment of monthly invoices from the General Fund for the amount \$1,520,987.54 beginning with check number 75450 through check number 75623 and the Cafeteria Fund for the amount of \$6,368.49 beginning with check number 8565 through check number 8579.

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

II. BUSINESS OFFICE

At the Committee Meeting on August 15, 2023, the Board of School Directors acted on the following two items:

Hannah seconded Iagnemma on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the School Resource Officer Interagency Agreement between the District and South Fayette Township. The Township will provide the District with a Police Officer for the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program for a period of 3 years retroactive from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026. The costs/excess costs allocated for the SRO Program will be 70% from the District and 30% from the Township. The Township approved this agreement on August 9, 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Elementary School Principal Tyler Geist for Board approval of the Title 1 Non-Public School Agreement (pending review by our Solicitor) with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, effective August 17, 2023 through June 30, 2024; to provide remedial reading and math instructional services in line with the Title 1 Program at St. Louise De Marillac.

Voice Vote – All Yes

1. The Superintendent recommends Board approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Agreement with Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium (MAEC), effective retroactive to August 18, 2023, for services providing technical assistance and training to support the District's work in creating culturally responsive and equitable family engagement opportunities. MAEC will use grant sources to provide \$40,000 worth of services, with the District paying a maximum of \$2,560 to offset presenter travel costs. *(information provided)*
2. The Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval to enter into a Contract of Service with the PA-Educator.net Clearinghouse. The term of the agreement is from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024, at a cost of \$1,950.00. This price has remained the same since the 2014-2015 school year.

III. PERSONNEL

At the Committee Meeting on August 15, 2023, the Board of School Directors acted on the following 18 items:

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Burroughs seconded Welch on the recommendation of the Superintendent recommends Board approval of the resignation of Dr. Laura Hartzell as the High School Principal effective retroactive to August 2, 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the resignation of Chris Juzwick as the Assistant Director of Finance, effective 60 days from August 8, 2023, if the District chooses to enact the 60 day hold period, per his contractual agreement.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the following resignations:

- Krystle Carlisle as a Paraeducator in the Intermediate School, effective August 17, 2023
- Suneeta Somireddy as a Food Service Employee in the Middle School, effective for the 2023-2024 school year
- Sean Flanigan as a Paraeducator in the Intermediate School, effective for the 2023-2024 school year

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire the following personnel effective for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Jennifer Drazick as a Special Education Autistic Support Substitute teacher in the Elementary School at the Bachelor's Step 1 rate of \$51,000, prorated
- Sara Anderson as a Grade 2 Permanent Substitute teacher in the Elementary School at the Bachelor's Step 1 rate of \$51,000, prorated
- Dr. Mai Hassan as a Grade 2 Long Term Substitute teacher in the Elementary School at the rate of \$160.00 per day
- Claire Kucerovy as a Grade 4 Permanent Substitute teacher in the Intermediate School at the Master's Step 2 rate of \$53,795, prorated
- Lexi Revi as a Grade 6 Science Permanent Substitute teacher in the Middle School at the Bachelor's Step 1 rate of \$51,000, prorated
- Zaina Kennedy as a Long Term Substitute English teacher in the High School at the rate of \$160.00 per day

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

Mentor Teacher for Jennifer Drazick	Halyee Ali
Mentor Teacher for Mai Hassan	Caroline Downey
Mentor Teacher for Claire Kucerovy	Gina Whigham
Mentor Teacher for Lexi Revi	Nicole Bianco
Mentor Teacher for Courtney Mitchell	Rebecca Lederman
Mentor Teacher for Grade 1 Long Term Sub	Norene Sarnowski

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

- Jane Venum as a Student Monitor at the rate of \$10.00 per hour
- Lori Ann Demnyan, as a Student Monitor at the rate of \$10.00 per hour and as Clerical at the rate of \$11.00 per hour
- Alphonsa Amalanayagam as Clerical at the rate of \$11.00 per hour

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And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler for retroactive Board approval to hire Natalie Macek as the Administrative Assistant/Access Coordinator, effective August 14, 2023, at the salary rate of \$30,500.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler for Board approval to hire the following as Classroom Paraeducators, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, at the probationary rate of \$16.09 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$20.11 per hour:

- Alaina Seifert in the Intermediate School, this is a replacement
- Morgan Ciotti in the Intermediate School, this is a replacement
- Dominique Theodore in the High School, this is a replacement
- Kathleen Coll as a Reading Paraeducator in the Elementary School, this is a replacement
- Melissa Berry in the Elementary School, this is a new position and included in the 2023-2024 budget

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler for Board approval to hire Kelli Kerr as a Personal Care Paraeducator in the Elementary School, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, at the rate of \$21.96 per hour. Ms. Kerr is currently a Classroom Paraeducator in the Elementary School.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Elementary School Principal Tyler Geist for Board approval to hire Theresa Galati as a Student Monitor in the Elementary 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. This position is due to a resignation.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie for Board approval to hire Lori Kercher as a school bus driver, effective for the 2023-2024 school year at the probationary rate of \$24.47 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$30.59 per hour. This is a new position and included in the 2023-2024 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie for Board approval to hire the following substitute bus drivers effective for the 2023-2024 school year, at the rate of \$20.00 per hour:

- Joe Martineck
- Dennis Brown
- David Soubie

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Varsity Football Coach Joe Rossi, Head Varsity Girls Volleyball Coach Scott Sundgren, Head Varsity Girls Soccer Coach Nick Rosser, and Head Varsity Cross Country Coach Joe Winans for Board approval of the following, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 season:

- Austin McClinton, Volunteer Assistant Football Coach
- Tom Patterson, Volunteer Assistant 7/8th Grade Football Coach
- Olivia Goerd, Volunteer Assistant Girls Volleyball Coach
- Sarah Pruss, Assistant 7/8th Grade Girls Soccer Coach
- Aaron Pfeil, Boys & Girls 7/8th Grade Cross Country Coach

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And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Middle School Principal Dr. Erin Crimone for Board approval of the leave of absence request for Taylor Hendal, School Counselor in the Middle School effective on or about October 24, 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of Sarah Frommeyer, a student at Duquesne University, to complete her student teaching with Anne Liberatore, Grade 1 teacher in the Elementary School, pending receipt of required documents, effective January 8, 2024 through April 26, 2024. There will be no cost to the District.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Food Services Tricia Wood for Board approval of Seth Koleno, a student in the Dietetic Department at IUP, to complete his 100 hours of clinical training with Tricia Wood, Director of Food Service, pending receipt of required documents from January 23, 2024 through April 25, 2024. There will be no cost to the District.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, Head Varsity Track & Field Coach Scott Litwinovich, and Head Varsity Softball Coach Olesia Stasko for Board approval of the following, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 season.

- Robert Reynolds, Assistant Track & Field Coach (Indoor & Outdoor)
- Autumn Mozick, Assistant Varsity Softball Coach

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Intermediate School Principals for Board approval to hire Anitha Varaganti as a Student Monitor 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.

Voice Vote – All Yes

New motions from the August 22, 2023 Executive Session agenda.

1. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of the retirement/resignation of a Paraeducator in the Intermediate School. The employee's last day worked will be October 6, 2023 and has been employed by the District since February 2017.
2. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of the resignation of a Food Service employee in the High School, effective for the 2023-2024 school year.
3. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of the resignation of a Personal Care Paraeducator in the Elementary School, effective retroactive to August 17, 2023.
4. The Superintendent and Director of Finance recommend Board approval to hire for the 2023-2024 school year, an assistant in the Business Office effective on or about September 14, 2023.
5. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of the list of (call as needed) substitute teachers and support personnel for the 2023-2024 school year.
6. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval to hire two half-time teachers for one building substitute teacher position in the Middle School effective for the 2023-2024 school year. One will work AM only and the other PM only.

7. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval to hire building substitute teachers in the Elementary School, Intermediate School, Middle School, **and High School** effective for the 2023-2024 school year.
8. Superintendent and Director of Food Services recommend Board approval of two students in the Dietetic Department at Seton Hill University, to complete their 90 hours of clinical training with Director of Food Service, pending receipt of required documents, from September 2023 through November 2023. There will be no cost to the District.
9. **The Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services recommend Board approval to a Personal Care Paraeducator in the Elementary School, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year**

IV. EDUCATION

At the Committee Meeting on August 15, 2023, the Board of School Directors acted on the following two items:

Iagnemma seconded Burroughs on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Assistant Principal Robert Butts for Board approval for Dr. Felix Yerace and approved chaperones to accompany students to Washington, DC for the annual 11th grade trip from Friday, May 17, 2024 through Sunday, May 19, 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. The cost to the District will be for a TBD number of substitute teachers for one day (based on the number of students attending).

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the changes to the 2023-2024 Family and Student Handbooks for the Elementary, Intermediate, Middle, and High Schools.

Voice Vote – All Yes

1. The Superintendent and Elementary School Principal Tyler Geist recommend Board approval of the 2023-2024 Elementary School Faculty Handbook.
2. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler recommend Board approval of the High School Dance Club as a proposed club in the High School effective for the 2023-2024 school year. *(information provided)*
3. The Superintendent, Middle School Principal Dr. Erin Crimone, and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval to dispose of the attached list of Middle School books as per Board Policy 706.1. The District will attempt to resell the textbooks; if not, they will be donated. *(information provided)*
4. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler recommend Board approval to run an asynchronous day, in the High School only, for the administration of the PSATs on October 31, 2023. Only the students being tested will report to school at the regular start time and the remainder of the high school students will be on an asynchronous day.
5. The Superintendent recommends Board approval for Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler to attend the National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME) Conference in Montgomery, Alabama from Wednesday, November 15, 2023 through Sunday, November 19, 2023. This is a requirement of a PDE grant (Prep to Practice) in which the District serves as a partner to Robert Morris University, the grant recipient. There is no cost to the District for travel; any additional fees are covered by the Prep to Practice Grant.

V. TRANSPORTATION

1. The Superintendent and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie recommend Board approval of the changes to the 2023-2024 Transportation Employee's Handbook.

VI. ATHLETICS

1. The Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Varsity Cross Country Coach Joe Winans for Board approval for the Boys and Girls Varsity Cross Country Teams to travel to Hershey, PA, to compete in the 2023 PIAA Foundation Invitational. The team would depart South Fayette on Friday, September 22, 2023, and return on Saturday, September 23, 2023. The tentative itinerary is attached.

At the Committee Meeting on August 15, 2023, the Board of School Directors acted on the following item:

Iagnemma seconded Welch on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to purchase a new diving board and diving board stand. The total cost would be \$28,300, includes removal of the old board and installation of the new board and stand, and is included in the 2023-2024 budget. The board will be purchased through PA Costars vendor Dream Pools (B&R Pools).

Voice Vote – All Yes

VII. CONSTRUCTION

1. There are no items to discuss.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

At the Committee Meeting on August 15, 2023, the Board of School Directors acted on the following item:

Burroughs seconded Iagnemma for Board approval to appoint Alan Vezzi as the Board Member to fill the vacant seat effective August 22, 2023, ending December 2023.

Voice Vote – All Yes

1. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of the updated Health and Safety Plan for the 2023-2024 school year.

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

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BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Suspend

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