



South Fayette Township School District

Regular Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday, April 25, 2023
7:30 PM

The Regular Meeting of the South Fayette Township Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:36 PM in the Studio, in the High School by President Len Fornella with the Pledge of Allegiance. President Fornella apologized for the late start announcing the Board held an Executive Session prior to the start of the meeting to discuss personnel and/or legal issues.

Present: Lena Hannah, Paul Brinsky, Joe Welch, Prajakta Patankar, Len Fornella

Present Virtually: Teresa Burroughs

Absent: Jen Iriti, Jason Olexa, Tom Iagnemma

Others: Chris Voltz, Tucker Arensberg, P.C.; Dr. Michelle Miller, Superintendent; Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler; Director of Finance/Human Resources Brian Tony; Assistant Director of Finance Chris Juzwick; Student Representative Gaiatri Potdar; High School Principal Dr. Laura Hartzell; Facilities Director Steve Timmins; Maintenance Manager Athan Tsourekis; Athletic Director Mark Keener, Teachers Angela Hoffman, Diane Lally; Lori Leroux, Frankie Leroux, Staci Black, David Poe, Jen Satler, Tony Hall, Rachael Hall, Todd Clark, Bryan Bennett, Olet Stasko, Sarah McMurtry, Zoe Poe, Ainsley Burns, Ava Leroux, Haylie Lamonde, Julianna Rossi, Alexis Toth, Lainey Yater, Taylor Oldaker, Juliette Leroux, Sydney Burns, Caroline Satler, Mia Deramo, Isabella Cestra, Ryan Oldaker, Rachel Black, Cami Feltz, Erica Hall, Maddie Webber, Taylor Solomon, Communications Director Patrick Harrigan; Director of Technology Rob Warfield; and Cynthia Geisler, Superintendent's Assistant/Board Secretary.

President Fornella announced the meeting is being recorded.

Dr. Hartzell proudly introduced and congratulated junior Zoe Poe, WPIAL "AAA" Girls 500m Freestyle Champion, with a new personal best time of 4:58:27. She added Zoe is a fierce competitor with incredible endurance; multi-sport athlete and involved in many activities including but not limited to Student Government, Glow Run, National Honor Society and many honors and AP courses; wants to continue swimming in college; most importantly polite and self-disciplined.

Mark Keener added she is hard working and very humble and credits her family for the values instilled in her; perfect example of a student athlete.

Dr. Hartzell proudly congratulated the Girls Basketball Team as WPIAL "5A" Basketball Champions and the PIA runner's up; they are unselfish; represented the district and high school with a true sense of pride and togetherness; played with grit and determination; an inspiration to watch playing together.

Mark Keener thanked the girls and coaches; an unbelievable journey; hard working and never miss any workouts; back WPIAL champions and first ever appearance at the state championship game and one of my best experiences; we are now the hunted; a special team and an honor to be a small part of the journey; the future is bright with special players coming up. Also want congratulate the State Player of the Year, Maddie Webber.

Coach Bennett thanked the Board and Administration for their support and recognizing the girls; a special group of kids; not a job, but being part of a family.
President Fornella, on behalf of the Board thanked the coaches, Zoe and all of the girls on the team for a wonderful year; as far as I'm concerned, they are the state champs!

Athan Tsourekis presented the following regarding the compressor for the Middle School pool rooftop HVAC unit:

- Compressor conditions the air during the winter months; dehumidifier and air conditioner in the summer months
- Last few weeks it has failed; over 20 years old and no longer repairable
- Reached out to a few vendors and received several quotes
- Renick Brothers to replace the entire HVAC unit would cost \$278,870; 45 to 50-week lead time
- Renick Brothers to replace just the compressor would cost \$29,970; discussed options with Renick, they came back with a quote of \$18,730 to replace the broken compressor, broken oil switch, recharge and startup, check for proper operation; give the HVAC unit few more years
- This new compressor (Copeland brand) has the same specifications, only it's not proprietary to the HVAC unit and is less expensive than the unit; warranty is one year; CoStar vendor price

Mr. Timmins presented the following issues with the pool area moving forward:

- HVAC unit 20 years old, the fix will prolong its lifespan
- Pool deck needs work done
- Chemical feeders have a lot of components replaced over the years
- Only 6 lanes, most pools are 8 lanes
- No room for spectators, maybe 100 at most
- In the future, possibly consider a new pool in a construction project

AGENDA APPROVAL:

Burroughs seconded Brinsky on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Solicitor for Board approval of the April 25, 2023, **revised** Regular Meeting agenda. **The following new motions were received and added today:**

- **The Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Facilities Director Steve Timmins recommend Board approval to purchase a new compressor and oil switch (and related work) for the Middle School pool rooftop unit through CoStars vendor Renick Brothers at a total cost of \$18,730.00.**
- **The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of (call as needed) substitute teacher and support personnel, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2022-2023 school year.**

Voice Vote – All Yes

CONSENT AGENDA

Hannah seconded Burroughs on approval of minutes from the following Board Meetings:

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

And on approval of the following Financial Reports which have been reviewed by the Superintendent and Secondary Administration:

Athletic Fund

Mark Keener

High School Activity Fund

Chris Juzwick

Middle School Activity Fund

Chris Juzwick

Board Summary Report (March 2023)

Chris Juzwick

And authorization for payment of monthly invoices from the General Fund for the amount of \$972,539.19 beginning with check number 74586 through check number 74796 and the Cafeteria Fund for the amount of \$54,971.98 beginning with check number 8525 through check number 8539.

Voice Vote – All Yes

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

There were no comments at this time.

Old Business

There was no old business discussed.

New Business

There was no new business discussed.

Superintendent's Monthly Report – Dr. Michelle Miller

Dr. Miller reported:

- Recap of the League of Innovative Schools provided in Board binders; history of South Fayette with the League; leadership abilities nationwide because of the organization; there now with Dr. Deichler visiting Talladega School District tomorrow

Student Representative Report

Ms. Potdar reported:

- April 18 - Campus wide parade celebrating the winter athletic and academic teams
- Girls Cross Country team won the TSTCA Championship for the third time
- Many sports held their banquets and senior recognition nights
- HS track and field day to raise more money for Mini-THON
- Fine Arts Department received the 2023 Best Communities for Music Education Designation by the NAMM Foundation
- HS Jazz Ensemble visited historic RCA Studio B to learn about jazz, music and the industry
- Little Green Machine, orchestra and band visited the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tennessee
- TSA students went to Seven Springs and a couple of students placed in their respective events
- FBLA Club went to Hershey, many students placed as state finalists in events such as insurance and risk management, social media strategies and business ethics; state finalists advance to the national level
- AP exams start May 1
- April 28 – Mini-THON, the honors business management class excited to welcome students to join for the 12-hour dance marathon
- ES kindergarten students used chalk to draw beautiful pictures outside the HS entrance; second graders created and finished their golf courses representing the individual personalities
- IS – fifth graders participated in an idiom day, dressing as various idioms
- MS – for the first time ever SF student Eric Zhao is competing in the national math counts competition

BUSINESS OFFICE

Brinsky seconded Welch on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the 2021-2022 School District Audit as prepared by Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood, LLP.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to utilize Mockenhaupt Benefits Group to prepare the Biennial Actuarial Valuation Report for the District's OPEB amount as of July 1, 2022 and July 1, 2023, for an estimated amount not to exceed \$6,000.00. The District utilized Mockenhaupt for our previous OPEB Valuation in 2021 at a cost of \$6,000.00.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval for the District to offer a Section 125 Flexible Spending Account (FSA) to District employees through American Fidelity, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year. There is no cost to the District or employees.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to renew a 5-year agreement with Pitney Bowes for the lease of a Send Pro P Series (Connect+ Send Pro P Series meter) at a lease rate of \$263.91 per month, effective September 1, 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Facilities Director Steve Timmins for Board approval to purchase a new compressor and oil switch (and related work) for the Middle School pool rooftop unit through CoStars vendor Renick Brothers at a total cost of \$18,730.00.

Voice Vote – All Yes

PERSONNEL

New motions from the April 25, 2023 Executive Session agenda:

Hannah seconded Welch on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Elementary School Principal Tyler Geist for Board approval of the leave of absence request for Katie Weber, Grade 2 teacher in the Elementary School, effective for the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year. Approved at the April 18 meeting for the 2023-2024 school year.

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

EPR Nurse – Academic Team Competition (effective April 27-28, 2023)	Misty Menarcheck
IS Lions of Steel Running Coaches (two positions, effective 2022-2023 school year)	Wesley Chappel Angela Johnson
ES Lions of Steel Running Coaches (six will split the stipend for two positions, effective 2022-2023 school year)	Jessica Lapinski Caroline Downey Sarah Nee Jennifer Reinhardt Elizabeth Frambes Alexis Deyarmin

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the following (call as needed) substitute teacher and support personnel for the 2022-2023 school year:

- Aaron Timco, PK-4/Special Education, pending receipt of required documents
- Preeti Paranjpe, Clerical at the rate of \$11.00 per hour, Student Monitor at the rate of \$10.00 per hour, Food Service at the rate of \$9.25 per hour, pending receipt of required documents

Voice Vote – All Yes

Mr. Welch reported April 29 two impressive South Fayette students were the recipients of the SHASDA Award, senior Conner Delaney pursuing a career in welding and senior Brianna Williams pursuing a career in zoology and marine biology

Patankar seconded Welch to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 PM.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Cynthia Geisler, Board Secretary