



South Fayette Township School District

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, May 28, 2024
7:30 PM

Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the South Fayette Township Board of School Directors was called to order at 8:15 p.m. in the Studio in the High School by President Tom Iagnemma with the Pledge of Allegiance. President Iagnemma 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: Esther Cardillo, Rebecca Bruce, William Gray, Joe Welch, Len Fornella, Tom Iagnemma, Teresa Burroughs, Jen Iriti

Present Virtually: Prajakta Patankar

Others: Chris Voltz, Tucker Arensberg, P.C.; Superintendent Dr. Michelle Miller, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler, Director of Finance Brian Tony; Student Representative Alekhya Buragadda, Athletic Director Mark Keener, Teachers Laura Nagel and Jessica Kent, Scott Litwinovich, Dhruv Kithany, Susan Vasalani, Director of Technology Rob Warfield; and Cynthia Geisler, Superintendent's Assistant/Board Secretary

Superintendent Dr. Miller recognized outgoing Student Representative and Superintendent's Advisory Council Student Co-Facilitator Alekhya Buragadda, thanked her for showing leadership, being the voice of her peers, and being ready to take on new ideas. Dr. Miller presented her with a token of appreciation and for her future educational plans at Union College. Ms. Buragadda thanked the Board and expressed gratitude for her fellow students' support.

Athletic Director Mark Keener and Spring Head Coach/Track Coordinator Scott Litwinovich recognized Senior Olivia Renk for being a true definition of a student athlete as a WPIAL champion in the 100 and 200 meter events, showing true leadership qualities, maintaining a 4.0 grade point average, and for being one of the most decorated athletes in South Fayette's history. Ms. Renk will attend St. Francis University with the intention to become a physician assistant.

Special Education Update

Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler presented information related to the regulations and programs that support special education.

- Federal and State Guiding Regulations for Special Education (The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 and Chapter 14)
- Student evaluations by the District's three school psychologists indicated specific learning disabilities, 504 plans, and autism as the top three outcomes.
- As with other districts in the state, South Fayette's overall trend shows an increase in the special education population while the number of students receiving autism and hearing impairment services is higher than other districts.
- District programs include: speech/language, hearing, and vision support; learning, emotional, and autistic support; related services include counseling occupational therapy, paraeducator support, social work, and transportation.

- The District has met state indicator targets except for other settings. Every effort is made before a student is referred for an alternate setting.
- Federal and State Regulations for 504 Plans: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Pennsylvania State Chapter 15
- Gifted Education Programs (GIEPs, Enrichment): policies and procedures are determined at the state and local levels
- Next steps include a developing a cohesive K-5 Life Skills/Autism Sport Program, solidifying a post-vention crisis process, updating the student services procedural manual, creating a written 504 manual, enhancing inclusive opportunities (e.g. Unified Robotics), building a Multi Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) model for grades K-5, and expanding personnel.

Dr. Andler answered Board questions related to her presentation.

CONSENT AGENDA

Cardillo seconded Burroughs on approval of Minutes from the following Board Meetings:

Committee Meeting	Tuesday, April 16, 2024
Regular Meeting	Tuesday, April 23, 2024

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	Sharon Aprea
Middle School Activity Fund	Sharon Aprea
Board Summary Report (April 2024)	Brian Tony

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Tax Collector Kevin Biber for Board approval of the provided list of Real Estate Refunds due to reduction in assessment and/or overpayment.

And on the authorization for payment of monthly invoices from the General Fund for the amount \$877,822.41 beginning with check number 77467 through check number 77723, the Cafeteria Fund for the amount of \$75,009.66 beginning with check number 8689 through check number 8699, and the Construction Fund for the amount of \$42,020.00 beginning with check number 0042 through check number 0043.

Voice Vote – All Yes

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

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 highlighted the 2024 *Pittsburgh Business Times* School Rankings. In Southwestern Pennsylvania, South Fayette ranked fourth place (up from sixth place in 2023), the high school ranked second place in the region, and the District ranked seventh in the state (up from eleventh place).

Student Representative's Monthly Report – Ms. Alekhya Buragadda

- Last day of school for seniors was May 24 and seniors visited other buildings to see teachers.
- Upcoming events include the senior picnic, senior clap out, senior sunset, commencement, and Glow Run.

BUSINESS OFFICE

Iriti seconded Bruce on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to authorize budget transfers resulting from local independent audit reclassifications made subsequent to June 30, 2023, or other closing date. If any transfers are necessary after the fiscal year end, appropriate detail will be supplied to the Board for ratification.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to appoint the School Depository for the 2024-2025 school year as follows:

- PNC Bank (Main Depository)
- Pennsylvania Treasurer's INVEST Program (Investment Account)
- Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (Check Writing and Investment Account)
- Citizens Bank (Construction Fund Account)
- PLGIT (Construction Fund Account)

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to renew the following insurance policies for 2024-2025 as proposed by CMRegent and UPMC through Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services Inc.

	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2024-25</u>
• Package, with Auto, plus	\$151,440	\$176,777	\$211,653
• Fraudulent Impersonations (CMRegent)			
• Umbrella (CMRegent-\$10,000,000 coverage)	\$ 20,856	\$ 20,998	\$ 23,108
• Workers Compensation (UPMC)	\$120,684	\$136,689	\$149,103
• School Leaders Errors/Omissions (CMRegent)	\$ 19,174	\$ 19,537	\$ 23,725
• Cyber Liability (\$1,000,000 Coverage)	\$		
(\$2,000,000 Coverage)	\$ 24,651	\$ 24,651	\$ 24,651

Sports and Student Accident Insurance – Bollinger Insurance Company, as follows:

• Athletic Plan AAA – Primary	\$ 18,648	\$ 18,648	\$ 18,648
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And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Technology Rob Warfield, and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of a revision to the annual payment for the Dell 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 \$270,752.80, for fifty-one (51) months with Dell Financial. The lease has been changed to non-tax exempt. The original motion was approved at the April 23, 2024 meeting. This is included in the proposed 2024-2025 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Technology Rob Warfield, and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of a revision to the annual payment for the 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 \$15,431.54 for fifty-three (53) months with Dell Financial, with a \$1.00 buyout at the end of the 53-month lease. The lease has been changed to non-tax exempt. The original motion was approved at the April 23, 2024 meeting. This is included in the proposed 2024-2025 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler for Board approval of the Concurrent Enrollment Agreement (pending review by the Solicitor) with La Roche University effective August 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. There will be no cost to the District.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler for Board approval of a Standard Work Order from Crossroads Speech & Hearing, Inc., (as reviewed by the solicitor) to provide a second speech-language therapist for the District's Extended School Year (ESY) program that will operate for 5 weeks in the summer of 2024.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Curriculum Director Cristine Wagner-Deitch for Board approval of a three year Client Agreement with Vector Solutions to provide an online professional development platform for teachers, paras and administrators, per solicitor approval of the agreement, effective July 1, 2024. This agreement locks in the cost for three years.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler for Board approval of the First Amendment to Agreement with Allegheny Clinic including the Chill Room Summer Program in substantially the same form as presented, as approved by the Superintendent and Solicitor. The Clinic will provide the Chill Project by AHN to the High School and Middle School, and will also provide school based behavioral health services to the four school buildings as outlined in the agreement, effective August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2025.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Information – 2024 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution 24-01, the final will be approved in June 2024.

PERSONNEL

Cardillo seconded Welch on the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval for Susan Vasalani, Board Secretary effective July 1, 2024, to be appointed as the Board Secretary of Record effective June 1, 2024.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Elementary School Principal Tyler Geist for Board approval of the leave of absence requests for the following teachers in the Elementary School:

- Caroline Downey, Grade 2 teacher, effective on or around May 16, 2024
- Tomee Jo Tracey, Learning Support Teacher, effective on or around September 8, 2024

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Dr. Natasha Dirda for Board approval of the leave of absence request for Erin McCafferty, Special Education teacher in the High School, effective for the 2024-2025 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire the following personnel for the Elementary and Intermediate School STEAM Camps (Board approved in March) at the EPR rate of \$45.00 per hour. The camps will be held from Monday, July 8, 2024, through Thursday, July 11, 2024:

- ES and IS Camp Director – Shad Wachter
- IS Camp Teachers – Shane Coyne, Claire Kucerovy, Mark Kuglar
- ES Camp Teachers – Rebecca Colangelo, Anna Slattery, Jacqueline Yakish
- ES Camp Nurse – Misty Menarcheck

Informational – no nurse is required for the IS Camp as a nurse will already be present in the building during the same time for the ESY camp.

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

EPR Nurse – Prom (effective retroactive to May 10, 2024)	Misty Menarcheck
Extra-curricular Personal Care Paraeducator – Prom (effective retroactive to May 10, 2024)	Angela Vogel
EPR Nurse – Summer STEAM Camp	Misty Menarcheck

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler for Board approval to hire Glenn Stewart for the Hybrid Online Summer Remediation Algebra I Course that will run from June 10, 2024, through July 18, 2024. Mr. Stewart will be paid for a total of 40 hours of instruction at the current EPR rate.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler for Board approval to hire Glenn Stewart for the Hybrid Online Summer Remediation Geometry I Course that will run from June 10, 2024, through July 18, 2024. Mr. Stewart will be paid for a total of 40 hours of instruction at the current EPR rate.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Facilities Director Steve Timmins for Board approval of the FMLA request of Raymond Potts, Custodian, retroactive to April 22, 2024.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie for Board approval of the intermittent FMLA request of Cindy Potts, Bus Driver, retroactive to May 1, 2024.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler for Board approval for Traci Goforth, Intermediate School nurse and a student earning her Master's at Eastern University, to complete her clinical hours with Kara Miles, Elementary School nurse, effective for the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year. There is no cost to the District.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval of the following reappointments:

- Brian Tony, as School Board Treasurer for the 2024-2025 school year at the stipend of \$1,500.00, prorated
- Tucker Arensberg, P. C. as School District Solicitor, with Chris Voltz being lead attorney as per correspondence. The recommended fee structure for 2024-2025 is listed below:

	<u>Rates for 2023-2024</u>		<u>Rates for 2024-2025</u>
Partners	\$150.00 per hour	Partners	\$150.00 per hour
Associates	\$140.00 per hour	Associates	\$140.00 per hour
Paralegals	\$ 95.00 per hour	Paralegals	\$ 95.00 per hour

The recommended monthly retainer for 2024-2025 is \$450.00, representing no change since 2018-2019.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Boys Varsity Volleyball Coach Ron Kelly for Board approval to change the status of Ryan Miller from a Volunteer Assistant Coach to a paid Assistant Boys Volleyball Coach, effective for the 2023-2024 season.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and the spring head coaches for Board approval of the following compensations to be paid in June 2024:

Boys Baseball

Head Coach	Ken Morgan	\$8,390.00
Assistant Coach	Marc Snider	\$1,200.00
Assistant Coach	Craig Wiltrek	\$1,400.00
Assistant Coach	Andrew Barney	\$2,530.00
Assistant Coach	Jonathan Kletzli	\$2,400.00
Assistant Coach	Jake Trainor	\$2,400.00
Assistant Coach	Ben Murray	\$1,800.00
Assistant Coach	Luke Paulson	\$1,500.00

Girls Softball

Head Coach	Olesia Stasko	\$8,390.00
Assistant Coach	Courtney Blocher	\$3,300.00
Assistant Coach	Judy Kirkpatrick	\$3,700.00
Assistant Coach	Autumn Mozick	\$3,100.00
Assistant Coach	Samantha Hartman	\$3,130.00

Spring Track

Head Coach	Scott Litwinovich	\$10,757.00
Assistant Coach	Joe Winans	\$ 6,200.00
Assistant Coach	Elizabeth Kline	\$ 5,000.00
Assistant Coach	Robert Reynolds	\$ 3,176.00
Assistant Coach	Wes Chappel	\$ 5,795.00
Head 7/8 th Grade Coach	William Finnerty	\$ 5,000.00
Asst. 7/8 th Grade Coach	Matt Timcheck	\$ 2,524.00
Asst. 7/8 th Grade Coach	Alexis Deyarmin	\$ 2,245.00
Asst. 7/8 th Grade Coach	Sean McCreery	\$ 2,000.00

Girls 7/8th Grade Volleyball

Head Coach	Scott Sundgren	\$4,195.00
Assistant Coach	Justine Yanosik	\$3,700.00
Assistant Coach	Tara Savisky	\$1,800.00

Girls & Boys 7/8th Grade Swimming

Head Coach	Todd Clark	\$5,250.00
Assistant Coach	Melanie Miller	\$2,600.00
Assistant Coach	Gianna Boburka	\$2,820.00

Boys Tennis

Head Coach	Brian Garlick	\$4,825.00
Assistant Coach	Victoria Chagnon	\$2,445.00

Boys Volleyball

Head Coach	Ron Kelly	\$8,390.00
Assistant Coach	Adam Diodata	\$6,600.00
Assistant Coach	Alex Verlinich	\$3,800.00
Assistant Coach	Ryan Miller	\$2,830.00

Girls Lacrosse

Head Coach	Michael Jordan	\$8,390.00
Assistant Coach	Michael Young	\$5,010.00
Assistant Coach	Mackenzie Shaak	\$4,110.00
Assistant Coach	Breanna Martini	\$4,110.00

Boys Lacrosse

Head Coach	Shawn Leydig	\$8,390.00
Assistant Coach	Jack Halley	\$5,900.00
Assistant Coach	Granville Wagner	\$3,600.00
Assistant Coach	John Dunn	\$1,865.00
Assistant Coach	Dan Senisi	\$1,865.00

Cheerleading**Competitive Cheerleading**

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

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

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

Team Cheerleading

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

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

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

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

Laura Nagel Should receive the last half of her pay in June 2024, which is \$1,250.00 (half of \$2,500.00). The other half was paid in December 2023.

Stephanie Harris Should receive the last half of her pay in June 2024, which is \$1,250.00 (half of \$2,500.00). The other half was paid in December 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Athletic Director Mark Keener for Board approval for Assistant Athletic Director Matt Bacco to receive the last half of his pay in June 2024, at the compensation amount of \$2,652.50 (half portion of \$5,305.00) for the 2023-2024 school year. The other portion was paid in December 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Athletic Director Mark Keener for Board approval for Assistant Athletic Director Olesia Stasko to receive the last half of her pay in June 2024, at the compensation amount of \$2,652.50 (half portion of \$5,305.00) for the 2023-2024 school year. The other portion was paid in December 2023.

Voice Vote - All Yes

New motions from the May 28 Executive Session agenda.

Iriti seconded Gray on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and High School Principal for Board approval to hire Thomas Salopek as the High School Assistant Principal, at the rate of \$116,000 for the 2024-2025 school year, effective date to be determined (pending receipt of required documents).

And on recommendation of the Superintendent and Intermediate School Principal for Board approval to hire Christine Sible, Administrative Assistant with lead administrative duties in the Intermediate School, effective date to be determined (pending receipt of required documents). They will be eligible for an increase effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, High School Principal, and Director of Student Support Services for Board approval of the leave of absence request for Victoria Schreffler, special education teacher at the high school, effective on or around September 9, 2024.

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

MS Student Government (effective retroactive to December 8, 2023)	Jessica Kent
MS SAP Co-Coordinator (effective retroactive to December 8, 2023)	Michael Perrott
ESY - Personal Care Paraeducator	Amber Greenwood
ESY - Substitute Personal Care Paraeducator	Kara Garubba
MS 6th Grade Camping Trip - Personal Care Paraeducator	Christine Magdich

*MS Student Government and SAP Co-Coordinator have been paid as of December 2023.

Voice Vote – All Yes

EDUCATION

Gray seconded Welch on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principals for Board approval to permit James Hausman and an additional chaperone TBD to accompany 4 students to participate in the 2024 Technology Student Association (TSA) National Conference being held in Orlando, Florida from Tuesday, June 25, 2024, through Sunday, June 30, 2024. There will be no cost to the district.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler, and Middle School Principal Dr. Erin Crimone for Board approval of the proposed course title changes for the Middle School Program of Studies effective for the 2024-2025 school year.

- Previous Course Title: Industrial Arts 6, New Course Title: Technology Education 6
- Previous Course Title: Industrial Arts 7, New Course Title: Technology Education 7
- Previous Course Title: Industrial Arts 8, New Course Title: Technology Education 8

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Middle School Principal Dr. Erin Crimone for Board approval to hold a Summer Strings Camp for Middle School students in the summer of 2024. The camp will be held from Monday, July 29, 2024, through Thursday, August 1, 2024. The registration fee of \$40 per child will cover the cost of all staffing and programming.

Voice Vote – All Yes

TRANSPORTATION

Cardillo seconded Burroughs on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie for Board approval of Three Rivers Limousine Service, Inc. as an approved contractor to transport South Fayette students, effective June 1, 2024. The costs are included in the 2023-2024 budget and the 2024-2025 budget.

Voice Vote – All Yes

ATHLETICS

There were no items to discuss.

CONSTRUCTION

There were no items to discuss.

MISCELLANEOUS

There were no items to discuss.

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

There were no comments at this time.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Voltz had nothing to report.

Board Comments

The Board had no comments.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee Report

President Iagnemma had nothing to report.

President Iagnemma

B. South Fayette Foundation

Mrs. Iriti had nothing to report. She suggested that another Board member may want to attend the meetings based on it being difficult for her to make the meetings on a regular basis.

Jennifer Iriti

C. PSBA/Legislative Committee Report

Mrs. Patankar had nothing to report.

Prajakta Patankar

D. Parkway West

President Iagnemma had nothing to report.

Tom Iagnemma

E. SHASDA

Seniors Alexis Gennaro and William Miller were recognized regionally.

Joe Welch

Fornella seconded Burroughs at 9:05 p.m. to suspend the regular meeting to move to executive session.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Cynthia Geisler, Board Secretary