



South Fayette Township School District

Committee Meeting of the Whole

Minutes – Virtual Meeting

Tuesday, June 16, 2020
7:30 PM

The virtual Committee Meeting of the Whole of the South Fayette Township Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:53 PM using Zoom by President Len Fornella with the Pledge of Allegiance. President Fornella apologized for the late start as the Board held an Executive Session prior to the start of the meeting to discuss personnel and/or legal issues.

Present: Todd Petrillo, Lena Hannah, William Ainsworth, Paul Brinsky, Teresa Burroughs, Jen Iriti, Tom Iagnemma, Len Fornella

Absent: Alan Vezzi

Others: See attached list of attendees.

President Fornella announced the meeting is being recorded.

Dr. Lockette introduced incoming Student Representative Darshan Reddy for the 2020-2021 school year. Mr. Reddy thanked the Board for this opportunity to collaborate, implement solutions, and share what he learns with his peers; focus on bringing clubs like FBLA and Science Bowl from the High School to the Middle School; wants to be a physician, get a Bachelor of Science then a medical degree.

Jamie Doyle, PFM provided the following information on the Resolution 20-01 Series A of 2020 New Money for Construction that the Board approved in May:

- Passed the parameters resolution for \$7,260,000 and is “on the shelf”
- Can issue a portion of the parameters resolution to pay for the MS Alterations and HS Roof Replacement projects
- Reviewed a payment schedule for an amount of \$2,390,00
- Have PFM proceed with the process; decide on a final amount at the June 23 meeting to include costs for trailers

The Board discussed how much would be needed for those projects and gave the ok to have Ms. Doyle proceed with the process and will provide an amount at the June 23 meeting.

Kevin Hayes, Hayes Design Group and Joe Brennan, PJ Dick provided the following information regarding the Middle School Alterations Project:

- Preconstruction meeting held two weeks ago
- Project underway with all but one contract returned
- Site mobilized; construction fence set-up; dumpsters onsite by Thursday
- All contractors on site by the end of the week
- Dust barriers installed on all three floors; selective demolition for investigative purposes right now
- Furniture order expedited
- Submittals being expedited quickly by Hayes Design Group

High School Roof Replacement Project:

- Bid documents being finalized; advertisement for bids will be published for three weeks
- Pre-bid mid meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 2
- Ten qualified roofers very interested in bidding the project
- Probable cost includes of \$1,531,178 includes soft costs, design fees, and gym roof
- Best to bid as one project and have Deduct Alternate for the gym roof

Mr. Brennan reviewed a Change Order Process with the Board to eliminate delays in the Middle School Project only since this is such a short term project. He reviewed the following: (document included for minute purposes)

- Four levels for approval
- Majority of change orders could be Level 1
- Types of change orders include: unforeseen conditions, code compliance, design errors and omissions, and owner requests

The Board discussed the process asked for the following to be added to the document:

- Add definition or example of an emergency nature; structural, correct immediately, safety issue, based on timing, affect the end date of the project

The Board agreed to have a motion added to the June 23 agenda to approve the process with the recommended revisions to the document.

The Board discussed the continuation of having virtual vs in-person Board meetings. Mr. Wolfe added the authority that removes the question of having a quorum physically present at meetings is legislation that states as long as the Declaration of an Emergency continues, possibly through the end of the year. Mr. Wolfe added that being in the 'green phase' has no effect on continuing the virtual meetings, but the Board can elect to have smaller meetings. The Board agreed to continue the virtual meetings and when the in-person meetings begin, have the ability to live stream for public access/participation. Pursue other options to allow more than 100 participants at each meeting. Mr. Warfield will investigate the District's ability to live stream for future meetings.

Dr. Lockette presented his recommendation to add an additional meeting in July to have the mandated Health & Safety Plan and the Re-opening Plan be presented to the Board. He continued the Athletic/Marching Band Resocialization Plan, which needs Board approval, updated graduation requirements, and curriculum also will be presented to the Board at the June meetings. The Board agreed to add a special meeting on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 for the Health & Safety Plan, which also has to be Board approved and the Re-opening Plan.

Dr. Lockette reviewed the following PDE updates on re-opening schools in the fall:

- State shared guidance on health and safety plan, template which is optional
- District developed a Re-entry Committee with subcommittees including: Pandemic Response, Health & Wellness, Curriculum, Postsecondary Transition, School Operations, Facilities, and Technology
- Only mandate, a Health & Safety Plan needs Board approval, posted on the District's website and submitted to PDE, but no PDE approval process
- Health & Safety Plan opening in a brick and mortar setting include cleaning and sanitizing, disinfecting, ventilation, social distancing, and other safety protocols; monitoring student and staff health, looking at other considerations like requiring wearing masks in certain situations and addressing students and staff in the high risk category
- Health & Safety Plan also requires naming a Pandemic Coordinator which will be Kevin Maurer and Tyler Geist who are currently the District's Safety and Security Co-coordinators
- Required Athletic/Marching Band Resocialization Plan draft will be presented at the June 23 meeting and asking for Board approval so the teams can begin on a voluntary basis; guidelines for the green phase, currently only players, coaches, trainers, athletes, and

officials are allowed at any activities, will adapt as things change; safety protocols include sanitizing equipment and requiring individual water bottles, among other things

- PDE guidance related to curriculum; contracted with Mathematica

The Board asked to review the Athletic/Marching Band Resocialization Plan prior to the presentation on June 23. Dr. Lockette added it will be sent by Thursday, June 18; a waiver is included in the presentation; band camp is included in the plan.

Brian Tony and Dr. Lockette reviewed the following regarding the 2020-2021 Final Budget:

- Timeline, 2020-2021 Final Budget needs approved the Special Meeting on June 29
- Changes to revenue and expenditures since May
- Proposed Final Budget on public display since approval on May 28
- Options for millage increases include no increase remains at 26.7 mills, .5 millage increase to 27.2 mills, or to the index a .9078 millage increase to 27.6078
- Decisions to be Made including Kindergarten mid-day bussing; Middle School sports, pay to participate for High School sports, and contracted security

The Board considered the Decisions to be Made and asked the Administration to begin looking at reductions for the 2021-2022 budget.

Consent Agenda

1. The Board considered approval of the Minutes from the following Board Meetings:

Virtual Special Meeting	Thursday, May 7, 2020
Virtual Committee Meeting of the Board	Tuesday, May 19, 2020
Virtual Regular Board Meeting	Tuesday, May 26, 2020
Virtual Special Meeting	Thursday, May 28, 2020

2. The Board considered approval of the following Financial Reports which have been reviewed by the Superintendent and Secondary Administration:

Athletic Fund	Mark Keener
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3. The Board considered to approve expenditures that were submitted for Board review to be approved at the Regular Board Meeting.

Superintendent's Monthly Report – Dr. Kenneth F. Lockette

Dr. Lockette reported the following:

- Planning for re-opening; following mandates for the Health & Safety Plan and the Athletic/Marching Band Resocialization Plan
- Distribution and collection of student and district items went well; for those who were unable to make their scheduled date/time, an appointment can be made with the building secretaries
- New website launched June 15, 2020; easier to navigate and ADA compliant; web address the same; COVID-19 page and resources for the Class of 2020
- New Student Representative Darshan Reddy will give his first report next week

Business Office

Informational – The Homestead/Farmstead Resolution motion below will be voted on at the Special Meeting scheduled for June 29, 2020, along with the 2020-2021 Final Budget motion.

Consider the recommendation of the School District Solicitor, the Superintendent, and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to adopt Resolution 20-04, 2020 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion, for the District to reduce property taxes, for qualified homestead/farmstead properties by

\$140.08. In accordance with the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006) the District must reduce property taxes beginning July 1, 2020.

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to adopt revised Resolution 20-05 for the 2020-2021 school year permitting taxpayers to pay their real estate taxes in three (3) installments.
2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie for Board approval to award the bids to lease/purchase the following buses. The costs are included in the 2020-2021 budget:

Company	Type	Amount
Bluebird of Pittsburgh	Two – 72 Passenger	\$175,826.00
Bluebird of Pittsburgh	One – 48 Passenger	\$ 83,361.00
Bluebird of Pittsburgh	Two – 24 Passenger Vans	\$132,740.00
Bluebird of Pittsburgh	One – 24 Passenger/Lift Van with 2 w/c slots	\$ 70,293.00
Total		\$462,220.00

3. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie for Board approval to award the bids to lease/purchase buses. The buses will be purchased through an additional lease schedule with _____. The terms will be for sixty (60) months with a \$1.00 buyout at the end; the bank qualified tax exempt interest rate will be _____% and total purchase price of the two-72 passenger buses, one-48 passenger bus, two-24 passenger bus, and one-24 passenger lift van with 2 w/c slots will be \$462,220.00.
4. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval of the following 2020-2021 tuition rates for non-resident students. This amount is determined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education in accordance with the requirements of Section 2561 of the Pennsylvania School Code.

Grades 7 through 12	\$11,302.63
Grades K through 6	\$ 9,543.55
Kindergarten (1/2 elementary)	\$ 4,771.78

5. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to enter into a Contract of Service with the PA-Educator.net Clearinghouse. The term of the agreement is from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, at a cost of \$1,950.00. This price has remained the same since the 2014-2015 school year.

Personnel

For Minute purposes, the Superintendent proudly announced that tenure has been earned by the following teachers who have fulfilled all requirements as set forth in Pennsylvania School Code, Title 24, PS 11-1108.

- Julia Salvador, Elementary School Kindergarten teacher
- Emily Martin, Intermediate School Grade 4 teacher
- Christina Crivelli, Intermediate School Strings teacher
- Alissa Beinecke, Middle School Grade 7 Science teacher

- Janine Gordley, Middle School Nurse
- Nicole Bianco, Middle School Grade 6 Math/Science teacher
- Amy Shimkoski, Middle School Grade 6 Language Arts/Social Studies teacher
- Yenny Chaves, High School Spanish teacher
- Lyndsy Grinko, High School Science teacher
- Glenn Stewart, High School Math teacher
- Tyler Smith, High School Social Studies teacher

Brinsky seconded Iriti on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire David Houseman as a High School Counselor at the Master’s Step 1 rate of \$49,903, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. This position is due to a retirement. Personnel items were be discussed in Executive Session.

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS ON THE ABOVE MOTION.

There were no comments at this time.

Roll Call – All Yes

Education

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Middle School Principal Kristin Deichler, and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to dispose of the following textbooks in the Middle School as per Board Policy 706.1. The District will attempt to resell the textbooks, if not, they will be donated.

Old Geometry Textbooks
Discovering Geometry: An Investigative Approach (Third Edition)
 Author: Michael Serra
 Publisher: Key Curriculum Press
 Copyright: 2003
 ISBN: 1-55953-459-1
 Count: 27

Old Algebra Textbooks
Holt Algebra 1
 Publisher: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston
 Copyright: 2004
 ISBN: 0-03-070039-6
 Count: 90

2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant to the Superintendent for Secondary Education Dr. Jeff Evancho, and High School Principal Dr. Laura Hartzell for Board approval to run 3-hour delay days in the High School for the administration of the Keystone Exams during the December 2020 and May 2021 testing windows. Only the students being tested will report to school at the regular start time and the remainder of the high school students would report on a 3-hour delay schedule starting at 10:20 AM.

Transportation

There were no additional items discussed.

Athletics

Personnel were discussed in Executive Session.

Construction

There were no additional items discussed.

Miscellaneous

Brinsky seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler for Board approval for the District to hold an immunization clinic on Tuesday, August 4, 2020. There will be no cost to the District.

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS ON THE ABOVE MOTION.

There were no comments at this time.

Roll Call – All Yes

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

Janice Marks, Kingsbrook Drive, if the state reopens, what will happen with commencement; why is the stadium off limits for use, we are taxpayers

Dr. Lockette responded the District will follow the guidelines for the green phase which limits large groups to no more than 250; neighboring districts adhering to the state mandate

Janice Marks, Kingsbrook Drive, HR836 emergency order to get back to normal by Thursday, the state could open

Mr. Wolfe added they are still bound by the 250 limit.

Janice Marks, Kingsbrook Drive, what if the ban is lifted.

Lisa Passyn, Sharalyn Drive, congratulations to Darshan Reddy on being selected as the next Student Representative; thanked administration, teachers and custodians for the swap of items on some of the hottest days of the year; thanked the Board for considering to continue the virtual meetings; the change order process should have a threshold limit on the number of change orders; thanked the Board for looking into keeping the proposed teachers in the budget

William Price, Celebration Circle, lucky enough to participate as Vice Chair of the Allegheny County Human Relations Commission and presented the students who were awarded the Diversity and Inclusion Award from Allegheny County via a public meeting, which was recorded and shared with the District; attended by Dr. Lockette, Dr. Herring, and Dr. Hartzell; diversity and inclusion a large part of our community.

Scott Teachout, Wheatland Circle, what is the rationale why 750 people are not allowed on a four acre stadium; three different groups of 250 in three buildings is not any better.

Dr. Lockette responded the District will follow the guidelines for the green phase which limits large groups to no more than 250 in one location; neighboring districts adhering to the state mandate; adhering to social distancing; the stadium is considered one location.

Scott Teachout, Wheatland Circle, safer to put 350 in one room in a building, why can't there be three ceremonies in the stadium;

Dr. Lockette responded the survey that was sent out was split, so the District made the decision to keep the students together for graduation; 216 graduates and over 100 parents responded

Scott Teachout, Wheatland Circle, there are dissatisfied parents, not listening to your constituents and will never change your mind; you'll have to live with the consequences.

Mark Chalovich, Highland Creek, who was the survey sent to?

Dr. Lockette responded all the senior parents.

Mark Chalovich, Highland Creek, I find that hard to believe, would like to see the results.

Dana Mislán, Forest Edge Drive, how is Canon-Mac able to hold graduation in their stadium with 2 tickets per student.

Dr. Lockette responded they are not following the state guidelines of not allowing groups larger than 250 in one location.

Tara Mey, Meeting House Road, the survey didn't go to all parents; students spread out in a gym vs having family around isn't right.

Dr. Lockette reiterated the decision was made to keep the students together.

Tara Mey, Meeting House Road, students are stuck in a room, do something with parents around; do what kids and parents want; it's the students getting the great grades and performing in sports that makes this district what it is.

Dr. Lockette responded they do care about the seniors and have celebrated them in other ways.

Tara Mey, Meeting House Road, did you get to watch your daughter graduate? I don't get to see my son graduate, that is cruel; no one should be graduating in a gym; you don't care about the kids and are not doing what is best; you're not hearing our voices; people didn't respond to the survey because they didn't like the choices.

Charlene Pauline, Willowbrook Drive, why was there no outside option; have an inside and outside option; why isn't the stadium an option, it is safer being outside.

Dr. Lockette responded the heat in July is something we can't control; the elements inside can be controlled; safety of the kids to keep them together.

Dana Mislán, Forest Edge Drive, did you attend your daughter's graduation:

Dr. Lockette responded he is not getting into his personal life.

Dana Mislán, Forest Edge Drive, thanks for nothing.

Lisa Passyn, Sharalyn Drive, not every speaking is speaking for all parents, comments are not appreciated; thank you for what you have done, the signs the car parade; kids want to be together; attacks on people who love your kids; the administration has gone out of their way to love and teach your children; it is what it is, get your kids ready for the next phase.
Janice Marks, Kingsbrook Drive, the survey would not let me respond; get in touch with state leaders, don't have to adhere to the guidelines due to HB being passed; you don't care, our voices are not being heard.

Q&A:

Why did Canon-Mac hold graduation in their stadium?

Like to see the results of the survey.

Letters from alumni regarding racial exclusion.

Did you attend your daughter's graduation?

Mark Chalovich, Highland Creek, Dr. Lockette you did not respond to Dana's question, did you attend your daughter's graduation?

There were no additional comments at this time.

Iagnemma seconded Brinsky to suspend the meeting at 10:12 PM and return to Executive Session to discuss legal matters.

President Fornella announced there will be no votes taken.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Cynthia Geisler, Board Secretary