



# South Fayette Township School District

## Committee Meeting of the Whole

### *Minutes – Virtual Meeting*

Tuesday, August 18, 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 8:28 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:** William Ainsworth, Tom Iagnemma, Todd Petrillo, Paul Brinsky, Teresa Burroughs, Lena Hannah, Jen Iriti, Alan Vezzi, Len Fornella

**Others:** See attached list of attendees.

Joe Brennan, PJ Dick provided the following update on the MS Classroom Alterations Project:

- Contractor budgets, approved change orders to date, within the total budget
- Change orders pending Board approval in August for a total of \$4,160.00:
  - Revise door hardware per Owner's Request for \$3,317.00
  - Add filter box from outside air to duct heater for \$385.00
  - Add new drain in copy center for \$458.00
- Change orders pending approval in September:
  - Add carpet in 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room, asked to proceed on a time and materials basis, using existing floor carpet tiles
  - Add light at door recess to 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room per Owner's Request; contractor provide pricing
  - Remove and relocate lights in 1<sup>st</sup> floor classrooms; contractor provide pricing
  - Add projector connections (AV-1) and teacher controls (AV-2) in music tech room; contractor provide pricing
- August 21, 2020 all work will be complete, except for punch list items; final township occupancy walk-through scheduled
- Masonry work at the entrance of 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room came in darker; due do contractor error on the order, there will be no additional cost to the District; due to the lead time, will have to be replaced in the evening or on a long break

The Board discussed how many change orders still need approved and keeping in the percentage allowed for them; Kevin Hayes added the entire project will come in under budget and thanked Joe Brennan, PJ Dick, the contractors, Kristin, Kevin, Steve Timmins, Reggie, and the custodians for all of their hard work on getting the project completed in time for the start of the school year.

Dr. Lockette reviewed the following updated information regarding the Reopening Plan:

- State metrics – District currently in the moderate level which means opening in the hybrid/cyber academy or fully online
- Recent circumstances communicated to the community regarding one positive case in each boys soccer, band, and hockey; quarantining all three programs; ACHD and families contacted, following Health & Safety plan protocols
- Per state metrics depending on the number of positive cases warrant the closure of a school building and for how long; ex. three positive cases per building will warrant the closure of that building and quarantine every class the students were in

- Due to county numbers and District cases, and possible teacher requests for a leave of absence, considering going fully on-line to start the school year; additional discussion next week
- August 17, 2020 Face Covering Update – face coverings must be worn at all times even when six feet of social distancing can be achieved
- Face coverings required for students age two years and above; allowances and arrangements made for students with IEPs and 504s
- Face coverings can be removed when eating/drinking or during designated breaks only
- Changes in education if fully on-line

Ms. Owens added a system of support and training of the new learning management system for teachers; 20 dedicated teachers to learn system and create strategies, one per grade or special; development team includes Victoria Lojek, Dr. Cassie Quigley, and Ms. Owens to create content for courses, custom designed for our teachers; parent training team of Shad Wachter and Kim Sahady supporting teachers and parents; improve on-line learning; August 24 teacher training begins; instructions for parents on how to access students' dashboard via email, website, and School Messenger; virtual meet the teacher videos includes how to access courses; orientations via Zoom meetings; help desk available using Google forms.

Dr. Evancho added 250 webcams purchased one for every classroom to enhance teaching; increase audio capabilities; synchronous connections in the high school; additional tool for teachers.

Steve Timmins provided the following facilities update:

- Disinfected everything using Virex, ALPHA HP, and Oxivir , all EPA approved disinfectants and listed on the CDC
- Hand sanitizer dispensers installed at each entrance door and a pump dispenser in each classroom; refill using gallon bottles
- Signs applied to the doors/walls/floors indicating handwashing, social distancing, wearing a face mask, and directional arrows; should be completed by the end of the week; also signs listing symptoms of you are ill
- Classrooms setup for social distancing
- Middle School has designated stairways

Tricia Wood provided the following food service update:

- One meal choice per day in each school, no change in pricing
- ES students eat in classroom; lunch delivered by cafeteria staff and monitors, including drinks for packers
- IS/MS/HS – students visit food court, go to designated eating areas
- Lunch available for students in cyber academy and hybrid students on their online learning days, pickup at the ticket booth at the stadium between 10:45 and 12:15, Monday through Friday; free and reduced students in the high school and middle school can also select a breakfast meal
- Free and reduced lunch applications being encouraged

Dr. Lockette summarized conditions will continue to be monitored; prepared to open in either the hybrid/cyber academy model or fully online; final decision made at the August 25 meeting; send another communication to the community to include if just one student/staff tests positive and the effects. Dr. Lockette added the Families First Coronavirus Response Act leave can possibly cause staffing issues which may require opening online for the start of the school year, until certified specific teachers subs can be found.

### **Consent Agenda**

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

Athletic Fund  
High School Activity Fund

Mark Keener  
Rebecca Bruce

2. The Board considered 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.
3. The Board considered approval of 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:

- August 17 – New Teacher Induction began  
Mrs. DeLuca added learning safety protocols and special education procedures, and best practices with teaching and learning
- August 18 – entire staff returns

### **Business Office**

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Safety & Security Co-Coordinator Kevin Maurer and Tyler Geist for Board approval to award the bid to Intertech for the amount of \$39,941.85 for the purchase and installation of one -Avigilon Analytic Appliance - Avigilon MODEL VMA-AIA1-CG2-NA and one -Avigilon 64TB NETWORK VIDEO RECORDER – AVIGILON MODEL HD-NVR4-PRM-64TB-NA for the existing camera system for the 2020-2021 school year. There is a programming fee of \$98.00 per hour. The items will be paid for with the PCCD CARES Grant.

### **Personnel**

Burroughs seconded Brinsky on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant to the Superintendent for Elementary Education Stephanie DeLuca, and Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski for Board approval to appoint Dr. Kathy Harrington as an Interim Intermediate School Assistant Principal effective August 24, 2020, as per the terms of the letter dated August 17, 2020.

### **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

Burroughs seconded Brinsky on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the following (call as needed) substitute teachers and support personnel for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Alexandra Rhoads, Grades PK-4
- Katie North, Nurse, pending receipt of required documents
- Sydney Funtal, Grades PK-4, pending receipt of required documents
- Sherine Diffendal, Grades PK-4
- Lynn Chabalie, Nurse
- Cathy Reon, Nurse
- Rachel Scott, Nurse

- Jennifer Ring, Nurse
- Joseph Martineck, bus driver at the rate of \$17.50 per hour
- Melissa Lenhart, bus driver at the rate of \$17.50 per hour
- Dennis Brown, bus driver at the rate of \$17.50 per hour
- Tony Kendall, bus driver at the rate of \$17.50 per hour, and food service transporter at the rate of \$12.00 per hour
- Michael Malinowsky, Social Studies 7-12, pending receipt of required documents
- Misty Menarchek, Nurse
- Amanda Evans, Smart-Start Program at the classroom paraeducator prevailing rate of \$18.41 per hour

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

There were no comments at this time.

Roll Call – Ainsworth, Iagnemma, Petrillo, Brinsky, Burroughs, Hannah, Iriti, Fornella – All Yes  
 Vezzi – Abstained

Burroughs seconded Brinsky on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Food Service Director Tricia Wood for Board approval of the retirement/resignation of Kathleen Oswald as a Food Service employee in the High School effective retroactive to July 28, 2020. Ms. Oswald has been employed in the District since 1997.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski for Board approval of the resignation of Rebecca McClintock as a Paraeducator in the Intermediate School effective August 21, 2020.

And on 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 of Kurt Voss-Hoynes, a student teacher from Duquesne University, who will be mentoring with Tom Fraser, High School English teacher from August 24, 2020, through December 19, 2020. Mr. Voss-Hoynes will complete his student teaching with Mr. Fraser from January 18, 2021, through June 11, 2021. There are no costs to the District.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie for Board approval to hire Caroline Poiche as a bus driver at the probationary rate of \$22.40 per hour, effective August 19, 2020. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$28.00 per hour.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski for Board approval of the resignation of Caroline Poiche as a Student Monitor in the Intermediate School effective August 19, 2020.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of following EPRs for the 2020-2021 school year:

Mentor Teacher for Kate Rarick	Molly Franjione
Mentor Teacher for Alexandra Rhoads	Gina Whigham
Mentor Teacher for Samantha Holman	Jodi August

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant to the Superintendent for Secondary Education Dr. Jeff Evancho, and Middle School Principal Kristin Deichler for Board approval to hire Natalie Tenuta as a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science teacher at the Bachelor's Step 1 rate of \$48,581, prorated, effective date retroactive to August 17, 2020. This is due to an internal move.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant to the Superintendent for Elementary Education Stephanie DeLuca, and Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski for Board approval to hire Alexandra Rhoads as a Long Term Substitute 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom teacher at the rate of \$130.00 per day, effective retroactive to August 17, 2020.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant to the Superintendent for Elementary Education Stephanie DeLuca, and Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski for Board approval to hire Samantha Holman as a Long Term Substitute 5<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts teacher, effective retroactive to August 17, 2020. Ms. Holman will continue to receive her current rate of pay.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Dr. Laura Hartzell for Board approval of the resignation of Julie Karabinos as an Administrative Assistant in the High School effective August 28, 2020.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler, and Middle School Principal Kristin Deichler for Board approval of the resignation of Haley Wauthier as a Paraeducator in the Middle School effective August 21, 2020.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Wrestling Coach Rick Chaussard for Board approval of the resignation of Nicholas Golden as the Head Junior High Wrestling Coach effective for the 2020-2021 season.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Girls Varsity Basketball Coach Bryan Bennett for Board approval of Rebecca Braithwaite as a Middle School Girls Basketball Coach effective for the 2020-2021 season, pending receipt of required documents and contingent on the season commencing.

### **SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS ON THE ABOVE MOTIONS.**

There were no comments at this time.

Roll Call – All Yes

### **Education**

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the first and final reading of revised Board Policy 204 – Attendance.

Dr. Lockette added the minor changes are recommendations from PSBA and not necessarily associated with COVID-19; allowances for instruction in different modes; if child has symptoms, and able to participate in each class, attendance mechanism will credit that as a school day.

2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to dispose of the attached list of textbooks in the High School as per Board Policy 706.1. The District will attempt to resell the textbooks, if not, they will be donated.

**Transportation**

There were no items discussed.

**Athletics**

Mark Keener provided a PIAA update including a meeting scheduled for August 21 to determine a plan moving forward including guidance on the start of sports; planning on starting August 24

**Construction**

There were no additional items discussed.

**Miscellaneous**

There were no items discussed.

**SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS**

President Fornella apologized for the late start to the meeting, hold Executive Session prior to the regular meeting and recently have extended well beyond the start time of 7:30; criticism and concerns are justified; understand everyone's time is valuable and again apologize for the recent late starts; will try to adhere to the scheduled start time of the regular meeting.

Lisa Passyn, Sharalyn Drive, thank you to everyone, not aware of the new webcams, have parent/student leaders on board for these discussions; privacy issue; may have influenced decision on hybrid or cyber option; how will fully online learning affect sports.

There were no additional comments.

Hannah seconded Iriti to adjourn the meeting at 10:19 PM.

Voice Vote – All Yes

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Cynthia Geisler, Board Secretary