South Fayette Township School District

Committee Meeting of the Whole

Minutes

Tuesday, September 20, 2016
7:00 PM
Pride Room, Administration Building

The Committee Meeting of the South Fayette Township Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:00 PM in the Pride Room of the Administration Building by Acting President Len Fornella with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Paul Brinsky, Lena Hannah, Alex Czaplicki, Alan Vezzi, Todd Petrillo (arrived at 7:33 PM), Jen Iriti, Len Fornella

Absent: Bill Newcomer, Teresa Burroughs

Others: Fred Wolfe, Tucker Arensberg, P.C.; Dr. Bille P. Rondinelli, Superintendent; Assistant Superintendent David Deramo; Director of Finance Brian Tony; Assistant Director of Finance Maria Brewer Aguilar; High School Principal Aaron Skrbin; High School Assistant Principal Laura Hartzell; Facilities Director Gene Manzini; Maintenance Director Dean Stewart; Food Service Director Tricia Wood; Teachers: Mary Quirk, Scott Philipp, Charlotte Austin, and Sandy Fiumara; Joe Brennan, PJ Dick; Ron Dufalla, Abigail Phillips, Lindsay Bagwell, Katie Drozynski, Shawn Tomaszewski, Nicholas J. Rodi, Deb Whitwood, Gina Duncan, and Cynthia Geisler, Superintendent's Assistant/Board Secretary

Joe Brennan, PJ Dick provided an update on the High School Additions and Alterations Project. Areas reviewed included:

♦ Approved change orders to date
♦ Current payment due
♦ Structural delivery 2 ½ weeks behind schedule
♦ Change orders pending approval included:
  ✓ Temporary asphalt patch at gas line relocation (owner request)
  ✓ Remove and replace unsuitable soil at Middle School drive (unforeseen condition)
  ✓ Remove and replace 5 existing frost slabs and replace 6 light pole bases (owner request)
  ✓ Changes to electrical room H-009 (omission)
  ✓ Changes to folding fire doors (owner request)
♦ Progress
  ✓ Area A – new slab on grade poured, interior masonry wall demolition continues, new interior masonry walls completed in 2 weeks, metal stud framing/drywall scheduled to begin this week
  ✓ Area B/C – Administration area new work complete, waiting for delivery of some doors and glass, new data/electric being installed in casework
  ✓ Area E – foundations ready for concrete late this week,
  ✓ Area F & H – final concrete poured on second level floors, masonry complete, curtain walls installed at stairwells, windows due first week in November, roofers nearly complete, metal stud framing complete with drywall ongoing

The Board discussed the use of the old furniture until the end of the project, and then the new furniture will be delivered

✓ Area G – steel deliveries began and will occur in four sequences, steel erection will begin on September 22
Exterior Masonry Repair – masonry replaced on exterior under windows and insets at gym, masons start front entrance later this week

Stadium – turf complete, track contractor on site September 21 at 7:00 AM to complete track repairs with line striping to begin immediately following repair work, re-grading/seeding at site stairs and guardrail modifications will be completed later this week

Wrestling Room – door frame replaced and masonry repairs continue, spray insulation to begin September 22 with painting to follow, wrestling mats/wall padding delivered and installed week of October 14.

Mr. Brennan reviewed photos of the project. Dr. Rondinelli added accommodations have been made for the voters to enter the building and for parking for Election Day on November 8.

Dr. Rondinelli introduced Dr. Ron Dufalla, Circuit Rider for PA Schools who presented an update on the Basic Education Funding Formula. He explained the formula weighs the following factors to determine the percentage of additional funding each district will receive from the state:

- Student enrollment
- Poverty based on census data
- Number of ELL (English-language learners)
- Income levels

Mr. Petrillo arrived at 7:33 PM.

Dr. Dufalla concluded because of recent legislation, $352 million in additional funding will be distributed to school districts this year, but it is still not enough.

Brian Tony reviewed the information from 17 of the 24 school districts in the state that offer a variety of Senior Citizen Tax Rebate or Voucher programs. The following areas were reviewed:

- Participation varied from 2 to as many as 60 participants
- Paying through accounts payable, payroll or a voucher
- Hourly rates ranged from $5 to $10 per hour, maximum earned $650 per year
- Budgetary caps from $20,000 to $55,000
- Income limitations per household varied
- Legal and administrative limitations
- Social security income concerns
- Legal parameters on work performed
- One local district – Hempfield, most from eastern part of PA
- Workers Compensation increases
- Coordinator of program
- Sub-planting work

Mrs. Hannah added an Allegheny County liaison could be contacted for additional information if the Board requests and concluded creating a budget committee may be a way to work with the community.

Minutes

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

- Special Board Meeting: August 4, 2016
- Committee Meeting: August 16, 2016
- Regular Meeting: August 23, 2016

Financial Reports

The Financial Reports were provided to the Board for review and will be included on the Agenda for approval at the Regular Meeting.
Superintendent’s Monthly Report – Dr. Bille P. Rondinelli

Dr. Rondinelli reported information was provided to the Board regarding a meeting with Edgeclick who provided options to generate revenue by advertising on the main page of the District’s website. She added other districts locally who are participating are Seneca Valley, North Allegheny, North Hills, Butler, and Bethel Park but none are generating that much revenue. Mr. Czaplicki added Google AdSense is similar but Edgeclick is a more controlled environment and asked the Board to review the information. The Board discussed where on the website, who the companies advertising are and the exposure to the students. Mrs. Iriti added she appreciates the efforts put forth, but it is a shame public education has to resort to advertising on their website to fund our schools, the legislators should be shameful.

Dr. Rondinelli proudly announced three high school students, Yuchen Lui, Grace Eckroate, and Sai Bhatte as National Merit semi-finalists. She announced the following:
- 2016 Homecoming King Andres Murguia and Queen Gianna Brandy
- October 3 Construction Meeting
- September 24 – Festival of Bands
- October 7 – Youth Football Night vs New Castle
- October 10 - Columbus Day, no school for students
- October 14 – Fireman Phil at HS
- October 17 – 2 hour late start
- October 24 – Professional duty day, no school for students
- October 28 – Pink Out Football

Dr. Rondinelli recapped her attendance at the White House Summit with Secretary of Education regarding Next Generation High Schools; she added she has been invited to a follow up session on October 5 and asked for Board approval to attend. Dr. Rondinelli concluded US Attorney David Hickton presented Chasing the Dragon video regarding heroine/opioid epidemic to the high schools students.

Acting President Fornella announce a motion to approve Dr. Rondinelli to attend the next meeting in Washington DC will be made at the end of the agenda.

Business Office

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Maintenance Director Dean Stewart for Board approval of the addendum to the agreement with EnerNOC for the PJM Demand Response Program. There is no cost to the District.

   Brian Tony explained the addendum expands the months and hours for participation. Mr. Wolfe added this will not interfere with the operations of the District.

2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Tax Collector Anne Beck for Board approval of the provided list of Real Estate Refunds due to reduction in assessment and/or overpayment.

3. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens, and Middle School Principal Kristin Deichler for Board approval of a Board contribution in an amount not to exceed $5,000 to be used as start-up funds for the First Lego League Robotics Club for the 2016-2017 school year.

Personnel

Personnel items were discussed in Executive Session.
**Education**

Dr. Rondinelli announced the District received a letter from the PDE advising the District it “meets requirements” of Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Pupil Personnel Dr. Mandi Skerbetz, and Assistant Superintendent David Deramo for Board approval to conduct the Extended School Year (ESY) program in the summer of 2017. The program will run Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM beginning June 19 through July 20, 2017. The District will be closed Tuesday, July 4, 2017. The cost of the program has been budgeted.

2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Middle School Principal Kristin Deichler, and Middle School Assistant Principal Kevin Maurer for Board approval to conduct the following trial clubs in the Middle School for the 2016-2017 school year:
   - 8th Grade Recognition and Awards Celebration
   - 8th Grade Video Yearbook Club
   - First Lego League Robotics Club
   - Spectacular Scholars Club

3. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval for High School Choral Director Christine Elek to travel with the chorus to Nashville, Tennessee from Thursday, March 16, 2017 through Sunday, March 19, 2017 for their annual Chorus Trip. Students will be responsible for all school work during their absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. There would be no cost to the district.

**Transportation**

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Transportation Donna Harshman for Board approval of the bus stops and routes for the 2016-17 school year. For audit purposes, the records will be kept in the transportation office.

Dr. Rondinelli confirmed this is for approval of routes and stops only, there are no changes to the policy.

**Athletics**

There were no personnel items to be discussed in Executive Session.

**Construction**

There were no additional items discussed.

**Miscellaneous**

1. The Board consider the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval to endorse the following as PSBA candidates:
   - Michael Faccinetto as President-elect (one year term)
   - David Hutchinson as Vice President (one year term)
   - William S. LaCoff Insurance Trustee (term ends 12/31/2018)
• Kathy K. Swope Insurance Trustee (term ends 12/31/2019)
• Mark B. Miller Insurance Trustee (term ends 12/31/2019)
• Marianne L. Neel Insurance Trustee (term ends 12/31/2017)
• Michael Faccinetto Insurance Trustee (term ends 12/31/2017)

**Expenditures**

Expenditures were submitted for Board review and will be placed on the agenda for approval at the Regular Board Meeting.

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

Deb Whitewood, Greenwood Drive, thanked the Board and Mrs. Quirk for their sponsorship of the GSA Club in the high school this past year. There has been a lot of support from students and I’m proud to see the changes in the district the past 20 some years. Students went out on a limb by taking their dates to school dances over the years and I’m proud of them for doing that. I hope the Board continues to support the LGBT students by not interfering with who they want to date, which the state and country currently support them.

Brinsky seconded Petrillo for Board approval for Superintendent Dr. Bille P. Rondinelli to attend the White House Symposium on the Future of Education R&D and Digital Learning on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 in Washington D.C. The cost of the trip will include travel, 1 day lodging, and meals.

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

There were no comments at this time.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Brinsky seconded Petrillo to suspend the meeting at 8:20 PM and enter into Executive Session to discuss legal and/or personnel matters.

Acting President Fornella announced there will be votes taken after Executive Session.

Mrs. Hannah asked the Board to please review the information regarding assessment that was passed out.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Mrs. Hannah asked the Board to please review the information that was passed out.

Executive Session convened at 8:27 PM.

Brinsky seconded Petrillo to exit Executive Session at 8:58 PM and return to the committee meeting.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Vezzi seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the resignation of Stephen Edwards, 4th Grade teacher in the Intermediate School effective on or before November 11, 2016.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire the following substitute (call-as-needed) teachers and support personnel for the 2016-2017 school year:
• Amanda McWilliams, Elementary K-6\textsuperscript{th}/Special Education N-12\textsuperscript{th}
• Kyrstyn Moran, Grades PK-4
• Kimberly Hall, Grades PK-4/Special Education PK-8
• Taylor Cavalovitch, Grades PK-4
• Zaina Boulos, English 7-12
• Amanda Huddart, Grades 4-8 (All Subjects 4-6, English Language Arts/Reading 7-8)
• Julia Salvador, Grades PK-4
• Rachel Losego, Inst. Technology Specialist/Mid-Level Math 7-9/Elementary K-6
• Alicia English, Elementary K-6/Special Education K-8, pending receipt of required documents
• Jeff Loden, Food Service Transporter at the prevailing rate of $14.47 per hour
• Patricia Ford, Bus Aid at the prevailing rate of $17.33 per hour

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval for Corey Barnes, a Slippery Rock University student in the Master’s degree program and an approved day-to-day substitute teacher to complete her field experience with Kara Pappas, High School Special Education teacher during the 2016-2017 school year. There will be no cost to the district.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens for Board approval to hire the following personnel as a teacher assistant for the Summer STEAM Institute retroactive to June 13, 2016 at half of the EPR rate of $35.00 per hour:

• Brian Garlick

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the intermittent FMLA leave of absence request for Janet Krainak, Middle School Custodian, effective date to be determined.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the leave of absence request for Lynette Loritz, Technology Literacy Integrator at the Middle School effective December 6, 2016.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Vezzi seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire the following as after school tutors for the 2016-2017 school year:

• Mark Kuglar, Intermediate School Coordinator
• Mark Kuglar, Intermediate School PSSA English Language Arts
• Jacqueline Yakish, Intermediate School PSSA English Language Arts
• Christa Fornella, Intermediate School PSSA English Language Arts
• Rocky Violi, Intermediate School PSSA English Language Arts
• Shane Coyne, Intermediate School PSSA English Language Arts
• Mark Kuglar, Intermediate School PSSA Math
• Sandi Miller, Intermediate School PSSA Math
• Michael Perrott, Middle School Coordinator
• Melissa Gielata, Middle School PSSA English Language Arts
• Kathleen Fischer, Middle School PSSA English Language Arts
• Bobby Ruffolo, Middle School PSSA Math
• Shannon Roche, High School Algebra Keystone Exams
• Gina Roth, High School Algebra Keystone Exams
• Erin Giegerich, High School Literature Keystone Exams
• Erin Giegerich, High School Biology Keystone Exams
And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the provided EPR list for the 2016-2017 school year.

Voice Vote – All Yes
Abstained – Fornella

Vezzi seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire the following as Personal Care Paraeducators at the current contractual rate, effective for the 2016-2017 school year:

- Angela Vogel for After-School Extra Curricular Activities in the Intermediate School
- Christine Magdich for the Circle of Friends After-School Extra Curricular Activities in the High School

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval for Alex Hobbs, High School Math teacher to complete his principal internship hours per his enrollment in the California University of Pennsylvania’s principal program with Aaron Skrbin, High School Principal and Laura Hartzell, High School Assistant Principal during the 2016-2017 school year and the summer of 2017. There will be no cost to the district.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Hannah seconded Vezzi on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire Sheryl Chachula on an emergency basis at a maximum of 24 hours per week at the rate of $26.50 per hour effective September 21, 2016.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Brinsky seconded Vezzi on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to post for an Assistant Director of Transportation to work 24 hours per week at the rate of $20.00 per hour.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Vezzi seconded Brisky to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 PM.

Voice Vote – All Yes

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Cynthia Geisler, Board Secretary