South Fayette Township School District

Regular Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday, January 23, 2018
7:00 PM
High School Conference Center

The Regular Meeting of the South Fayette Township Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:00 PM in the High School Conference Center by President Vezzi with the Pledge of Allegiance. The change of venue was properly advertised.

Present: Todd Petrillo, Lena Hannah, Alex Czaplicki, Paul Brinsky, Jen Iriti, Alan Vezzi

Absent: Teresa Burroughs, Len Fornella, Bill Newcomer

Others: Fred Wolfe, Tucker Arensberg; P.C.; Dr. Kenneth F. Lockette, Superintendent; Assistant Superintendent David Deramo; Director of Finance/HR Brian Tony; Curriculum, Technology, and Innovation Coordinator Stephanie DeLuca; High School Principal Aaron Skrbin; Associate High School Principal Laura Hartzell; Middle School Principal Kristin Deichler; Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski; Associate w/Intermediate/Elementary School Principal Tyler Geist; Teachers: Alissa Beinecki, Kristy Skerbetz, Ben Laughton, and Mindy Clayton; Lindsey Bagwell, Jeff Lanz, Bailey Bledsoe, Lauren Iagnemma, Tom Perpetua, Ruthik Panda, Zac DiGiacomo, Anne Beck, Phil Beck, Jacob Meyer, and Cynthia Geisler, Superintendent’s Assistant/Board Secretary

Dr. Lockette stated January is Board Recognition Month and reported students and media specialist from each school building selected a book to dedicate to the Board that will be housed in each library. The following students from each building read a thank you to the Board and a short synopsis of the books selected:

- **Elementary Students**: Gabriella Beinecke, Isabella Bledsoe, and Aidan Lanz presented the book ‘We’re All Wonders’
- **Intermediate Students**: Kevin Clayton and Ryan Clayton presented the book ‘Wonder’
- **Middle School Student**: Lauren Iagnemma presented the book ‘Be a Changemaker’
- **High School Students**: Zachary DiGiacomo and Ruthvik Panda presented the book ‘The Maker Movement Manifesto: Rules for Innovation in the New World of Crafters, Hackers, and Tinkerers’

On the Board’s behalf President Vezzi thanked the students for the kind words, the books being dedicated, and for the parents support.

President Vezzi reported the following:

- **AIU Annual Convention of School Board Directors** will be held on April 30, 2018, along with the election of AIU Board Members and if anyone is interested in running for one of the Board positions to contact Mrs. Geisler
- **March 29, 2018** will be a snow makeup day for the day missed on January 5, 2018

Joe Brennan, PJ Dick reported the following on the High School Additions and Alterations Project:

- TriMark SS Kemp is the only contractor to send a final invoice
- Invoices for the other contractors are being retained until their punch list items are completed
- Punch list items are expected to be complete in two weeks

The following punch list items were reviewed:
• Submit Test and Balancing Reports (expected by end of the week), testing and balancing completed on January 23, 2018
• Replace two signs in Guidance area with wording “No Admittance”, will be replaced as soon as they are made
• Gym Lobby doors (pair) – Install Replacement Door (C137.1 double doors), new doors delivered but the hinge pockets were incorrectly aligned, the doors are being remade
• Waiting Room – Install Replacement Door (C116.1), same reason as above doors
• Fire Pump Room XD013 – Relocate hydraulic plate on wall where more visible, contractor claims completion, but not verified
• Fab Lab – Install remaining 8 cable reels, work completed

The following are owner generated items:
• E119 Dust Collector Room – No Heat Source, add a heat source and install a thermostat to monitor the temperature in the room; a temporary heater is currently in there to the keep the water from freezing and to avoid any further problems from arising if the temperature drops; this was not part of the design, so there will be a change order to add heat to the room
• Studio Room Window – Dirt between panes of glass on studio room window; glass has been ordered, expecting to have the glass replaced within the next two weeks
• Roof Scuppers – Exterior Roof Scuppers missing and need installed; due to weather they were not installed, will be completed as soon as the weather breaks
• Room FA223b Uniform Storage – No thermostat in the uniform storage room (ASI issued, need priced and materials ordered)
• Room FA223a Orchestra Storage – Humidity problem in the instrument storage room (defective part on humidifier T-Stat, under warranty and being replaced). Humidifier pumped humidity into the room, the thermostat was not calling for heat, which caused extreme condensation and it was ‘raining’; casework was damaged and needs replaced. A thermostat was added to control the heating unit; temperature is ok, but the humidistat was damaged due to the dripping water, which is still being investigated and hopefully will be fixed by the end of the week

Mr Tony added the piano was checked by a professional and no damage was detected.
• FA211 – Fab Lab – Electrical issue in FA211 Fab Lab (planer and other equipment set on wrong voltage), power surges when lights or other equipment turned on, the common planer motor was damaged and needs replaced; troubleshooting if a transformer will need installed
• Area G Bridge Connections – Radiant heat panels and controls not working, will have Siemens make sure all controls are working
• All – New univents mode are ‘Out of Service’ after recovering from power outage (Siemens programming issue, will review and correct)

Mr. Brennan added the list of open punch list items will be sent to the Board Secretary and disseminated to the Board. President Vezzi asked if the dust collector room having no heat was an oversight; Mr. Brennan confirmed it was. President Vezzi asked for more details on the orchestra storage room issue, Mr. Brennen complied. Mr. Brennan will follow-up with the contractors to ensure the punch list items are complete and have the final payouts by the February report.

MINUTES

Brinsky seconded Czaplicki on approval of Minutes from the following Board Meeting:

Reorganization and Regular Meeting December 4, 2017

Voice Vote – All Yes

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Hannah seconded Brinsky on approval of the following Financial Reports:

1. Aquatics Fund
2. Athletic Fund  
   Mark Keener
3. High School Activity Fund  
   Harriet Dausch
4. Middle School Activity Fund  
   Harriet Dausch
5. Tax Collector Reports (November/December 2017)  
   Anne Beck
6. Tax Collector Reports (November 2017)  
   Jordan Tax
7. Board Summary Report June 2017  
   Maria Aguilar

Voice Vote – All Yes

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

There were no comments at this time.

**Superintendent’s Monthly Report – Dr. Kenneth Lockette**

Dr. Lockette reported the following:
- Spending time in the buildings, department/grade level meetings
- Interviewed by the 7th grade class

Dr. Lockette added Mrs. Mackey, Musical Director is requesting additional funds to have a new platform to surround the orchestra pit for the upcoming musical be built; Dean Stewart has offered to build the platform at an estimated cost of $1,000 and could be covered by the Maintenance Budget. He continued the District received a check from The Grable Foundation for $65,130 to support the STEAM Summer Institute and the public/community meetings scheduled for January 24 at 8:30 AM and 6:30 PM have 22 and 20 attendees respectively.

**BUSINESS OFFICE**

Iriti seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to continue participation in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Board for 2018-2019 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Pupil Personnel Dr. Mandi Skerbetz for Board approval to enter in to a Memorandum of Understanding with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit to provide ESL staff development sessions for the integration of technology in the ESL program for the 2017-2018 school year. The fee of $1,250 will be covered by Title III funds.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie for Board approval to authorize the administration to advertise for bids for three 72 passenger and one 48 passenger buses and one 19-24 passenger van, conventional diesel for the 2018-2019 school year.

And on 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.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the Parkway West General Operating and Jointure Budget for 2018-2019 as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Type</th>
<th>2017-2018</th>
<th>2018-2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parkway West General Operating Budget</td>
<td>$6,251,788</td>
<td>$6,428,563</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parkway West Jointure Budget</td>
<td>$ 563,596</td>
<td>$ 703,183</td>
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</tbody>
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South Fayette’s Estimated Share of the Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Type</th>
<th>2017-2018</th>
<th>2018-2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parkway West General Operating Budget</td>
<td>$ 493,188</td>
<td>$ 455,291</td>
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</table>
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Parkway West Building Rental Budget

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$35,067</td>
<td>$50,477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$528,255</td>
<td>$505,768</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This budget information is based on 75.4 ADM’s attending Parkway West up from 73.346

And on the motion for Board approval for a new platform/walkway to be built for the 2018 High School musical and any future needs at an estimated cost of $1,000 and to be funded using the 2017-2018 Maintenance Budget.

Voice Vote – All Yes

PERSONNEL

President Vezzi asked the Board to review the seven items on the revised Executive Session agenda; if there are no questions, they will be voted on with the following items. The Board had no questions.

Hannah seconded Iriti on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to grant a leave of absence request to Carrie Palmer, High School Math teacher effective on or about April 5, 2018.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to grant a leave of absence request to Chelsea McIntyre, High School BCIT teacher effective on or about May 19, 2018.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the following EPR position for the 2017-2018 school year:

| Stage Crew | Christine Elek |

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the transfer of Student Monitor Pratima Jukalkar from the Intermediate School to the Elementary School. The hourly pay rate will remain the same. This transfer will occur as soon as her position in the Intermediate School is filled.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to grant a leave of absence request to Amy Shimkoski, Middle School English/Social Studies teacher effective on or about May 22, 2018.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to accept the sabbatical leave of absence request for Jodi August, Grade 5 Reading Specialist effective for the 2018-2019 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to accept the resignation of Tracey Fox as the Substitute Call Off person for the South Fayette Township School District effective at the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to accept the retirement of Darlene Schultz, Bus Driver effective at the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie for Board approval to hire Amirita Dey as a Bus Aide at the rate of $14.28 per hour effective retroactive to December 20, 2017. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be $17.85 per hour.
And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Interim Aquatics Director Megan Lenzi for Board approval to hire Sara Cremonese as an Assistant Aquatics Director at the rate of $15.00 per hour effective retroactive to January 1, 2018.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Interim Aquatics Director Megan Lenzi for Board approval to hire Emma Wesolek as an Instructor at the rate of $8.00 per hour, effective January 24, 2018.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval for the following Point Park University students to complete their 14 hours of field experience in the Elementary and Middle Schools from March 7, 2018 through April 18, 2018, pending receipt of required documents. There will be no cost to the District.

- Ashley Albright
- Marc Bentley
- Brittany Dolata
- Maria Mancuso
- Kristy Price
- David Ely
- Alex Rudel
- Maddie Walstra

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, the fall season Head Coaches, and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval of the following coaches for the 2018-2019 season:

**Football**

Head Coach: Joe Rossi  
Assistant Coach: Shane Patterson  
Assistant Coach: Ryan Faraci  
Assistant Coach: Derrick Carson  
Assistant Coach: Bill Yost  
Assistant Coach: Mike Slencak  
Assistant Coach: Scott Litwinovich  
Volunteer Varsity Asst. Coach: Ken Morgan  
7/8th Grade Head Coach: Rick Chaussard  
7/8th Grade Assistant Coach: Wesley Chappell  
7/8th Grade Assistant Coach: Josh Patterson  
Volunteer 7/8th Grade Asst. Coach: Joe Faini

**Boys Golf**

Head Coach: Bob Ruffolo  
Assistant Coach: Rocky Violi  
Volunteer Coach: Michael Perrott

**Boys Soccer**

Head Coach: Rob Eldridge  
Assistant Coach: Joe Luxbacher  
Assistant Coach: Alex Ford  
Assistant Coach: Nolan Levine  
Volunteer Assistant Coach: Josh Martinic  
7/8th Grade Head Coach: Mark Kuglar, Jr.
Girls Soccer
Head Coach
Kate Munnell
Assistant Coach
Nick Rosser
Assistant Coach
Sarah Nee
Assistant Coach
Zach Hamilton
Assistant Coach
Erin Cook
7/8th Grade Head Coach
Chelsea Faynor
7/8th Grade Assistant Coach
Nicole Bianco

Girls Volleyball
Head Coach
Scott Sundgren
Assistant Coach
Jessica Pattyn
Assistant Coach
Casey Pattyn
Varsity & 7/8th Grade Asst. Coach
Micki Cerchiaro
Volunteer Assistant Coach
Danielle Rudolph

Boys & Girls Cross Country
Head Coach
Joe Winans
7/8th Grade Head Coach
Matt Timcheck

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Varsity Girls Basketball Coach Matt Bacco for Board approval of the resignation of Colleen Hough as Assistant Girls Basketball Coach effective retroactive to December 11, 2017.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Varsity Baseball Coach Ken Morgan for Board approval of Marc Snider as the Head Freshman Baseball Coach for the 2017-2018 season, pending receipt of required documents.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire Devon Strimel as a Permanent Substitute BCIT teacher in the High School at the Master’s Step 1 rate of $49,300, prorated, effective January 24, 2018.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of Penny Miller as the Certified School Nurse for the Mardi Gras Dance to be held on February 10, 2018. Ms. Miller will be paid the EPR rate of $37.00 per hour.

And on the recommendation The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval to hire the following substitute (call-as-needed) support personnel:

- Geetha Krishnan, Student Monitor at the rate of $10.00 per hour, pending receipt of required documents

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Interim Aquatics Director Megan Lenzi for Board approval to hire Spruha Vashi as an Instructor/Lifeguard at the rate of $8.00 per hour effective January 24, 2018.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie for Board approval of the resignation of Dwayne Sharlow, Mechanic effective retroactive to November 10, 2017.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the resignation of Rosie Gagnon, as a Food Service employee and Bus Aide effective January 26, 2018.
And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the following EPR position for the 2017-2018 school year:

| Mentor Teacher (Sarah Cabanor) | Cynthia Nix (effective 9/11/17) |

Voice Vote – All Yes

EDUCATION

Petrillo seconded Iriti on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent David Deramo, and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval of the new courses and changes to the 2018-2019 High School Program of Studies.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval to conduct the Girls STEAM Club in the High School effective for the 2017-2018 school year. The trial period was the 2016-2017 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval to permit SRO Jeff Sgro to attend the 2018 National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) Conference in Reno, Nevada from Sunday, June 24, 2018 through Friday, June 29, 2018. The cost of registration will be covered by the Pennsylvania School Resource Officers Association (PASRO), with costs to the District for travel, lodging, and meals.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval to permit Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens to present at the SXSW Conference in Austin, Texas from Sunday, March 11, 2018 through Wednesday, March 14, 2018, at a cost not to exceed $3,000 (which includes registration, travel, lodging, and meals). The Remake Learning Network is offering a stipend of $1,500 to help with costs. The cost of the conference is part of the 2017-2018 budget.

And on Board approval for the team of Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Lockette, Assistant Superintendent David Deramo, and Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens to attend the Digital Promise – League of Innovative Schools Spring Cohort meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina from Wednesday, April 25, 2018 through Friday, April 27, 2018. The cost will include registration, travel, lodging, and meals, with a portion of those costs to be reimbursed to the District. The costs are included in the 2017-2018 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski, and Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens for Board approval to conduct a trial Mindstorm Robotics Club in the Intermediate School (Grade 5) effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Voice Vote – All Yes

TRANSPORTATION

There were no additional items discussed.

ATHLETICS

Petrillo seconded Brinsky on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Girls and Boys Varsity Indoor Track Coach Scott Litwinovich for Board approval to permit the Indoor Track teams to participate in the Spire Scholastic Open on Saturday, February 3, 2018 at Geneva, Ohio. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. The District will supply transportation to and from the meet.
And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Boys Varsity Baseball Coach Ken Morgan for Board approval to permit the Boys Baseball team to travel to Tampa, Florida to participate in a baseball tournament. The plans are to depart on Thursday, March 22, 2018 and return on Sunday, March 25, 2018. 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 is no cost to the District.

Voice Vote – All Yes

CONSTRUCTION

There were are no additional items discussed.

MISCELLANEOUS

Hannah seconded Iriti on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the revised FINAL 2018-2019 school calendar.

Dr. Lockette indicated the change is for the August 2018 dates for Teacher Induction and Staff Development. There is no change to the start or end dates for students.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Solicitor’s Report

Mr. Wolfe had one item to report in Executive Session.

EXPENDITURES

Brinsky seconded Petrillo to authorize payment of monthly invoices from the General Fund for the amount of $951,348.99 beginning with check number 59588 through check number 59986, the Cafeteria Fund for the amount of $110,454.99 beginning with check number 7342 through check number 7381, and the Construction Fund for the amount of $395,741.94 beginning with check number 562 through check 571.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Board Comments

There were no comments at this time.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee Report
President Alan Vezzi

President Vezzi welcomed Dr. Lockette to the District and making it through the first meeting.

South Fayette Foundation
Len Fornella

Mr. Fornella was absent.

PSBA/Legislative Committee Report
Lena Hannah
Mrs. Hannah reported PSBA is asking School Boards to adopt a resolution to oppose Senate Bill 2, which would allow parents in the bottom 15% of districts to take the funds for their children and use those funds to place them in a private school. She continued this does not necessarily affect South Fayette, but the public education system as a whole. Mrs. Hannah added there is a sample resolution that can be used with modifications if needed. The Board discussed the bill and agreed to approve a motion to pass the resolution after the last public comment section. Mrs. Hannah concluded information regarding transgender students was disseminated and CHIP will be funded for another 6 years by the Federal Government.

Parkway West President Alan Vezzi

President Vezzi reported the Parkway Budget was approved for 2018-2019, the renovation work is finishing up; they are looking at summer programs/projects to continue the modernization of the building. President Vezzi was elected Vice President at Parkway.

SHASDA Alex Czaplicki

Mr. Czaplicki report the SHASDA meeting will be on January 25 and he will have a report in February.

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

Anne Beck, Gromwell Lane, as the outgoing Tax Collector I want to give my thoughts about tax collection for the last few years. Formerly and publicly inform the Board all the following required tax records have been turned over:

- Unpaid taxes for 2017 turned over to Jordan Tax
- Remainder of the $106,546.35 of additional taxes that were billed in November 2017 that are due until March 15, 2018 turned over to Jordan Tax
- All of the records from 2014 through 2017 turned over to new Tax Collector Kevin Biber
- Information per my memo to the Board turned over to Mr. Biber regarding the following:
  ✓ Goal to insure every tax payer receives a bill, returned bills I investigated and mailed to the appropriate person
  ✓ Make the checks payable to South Fayette School District or the township
  ✓ Provided online bill payments

Mrs. Beck added her time in office she was professional, available, and courteous; created a website with pertinent information, provided online bill payment, turned over delinquent tax bills, filed required tax reports, was available to every tax payer either by phone or email; welcomed many tax payers into my home; answered questions in public places; answered hundreds of emails and text messages; and provided pro bono legal work. I would change the following if I was still in office:

- Requested several times for a third sheet of paper to be inserted into the tax bills to gather pertinent information such as email addresses, phone numbers, and number of people 18 or over who live at the residence to help determine per capita tax, the request was denied
- Tax bills to one recipient should be mailed in one mailing, each bill is mailed separately which is inefficient and not environmentally conscious
- Not to be in charge for $40 million dollars, this money is in an account under my name; the checks should be deposited directly into the taxing body accounts
- Different company for online bill payments
- Recommendation the Tax Collector should have an office in the community, safer and more efficient

President Vezzi thanked Mrs. Beck for her four years of service.
Phil Beck, Gromwell Lane, welcomed his wife back; an executive with SAP in Pittsburgh, hiring approximately 400 employees in the next two years; introduced the German American Chambers of Commerce to South Fayette to possibly do apprenticeship type work for students interested in trade type activities with different German companies and have one ticket available to attend the German American Chambers of Commerce Ice Gala.

Brinsky seconded Iriti on the motion for Board approval to adopt Resolution 18-01 Opposing ESA Voucher Programs (SB 2) pending any minor adjustments/revisions to the resolution.

Voice Vote – Petrillo, Czaplicki, Brinsky, Iriti, Vezzi
All Yes
Abstained – Hannah

Brinsky seconded Iriti to suspend the meeting at 8:06 PM and enter into Executive Session to discuss legal and/or personnel matters.

President Vezzi announced there will not be any votes after Executive Session.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Executive Session convened at 8:10 PM.

Brinsky seconded Iriti to exit Executive Session at 8:48 PM and return to the Regular Meeting.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Brinsky seconded Petrillo to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 PM.

Voice Vote – All Yes

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Cynthia Geisler, Board Secretary