South Fayette Township School District

Committee Meeting of the Whole

Minutes

Tuesday, July 18, 2017
7:00 PM

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 President Len Fornella with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Alan Vezzi, Alex Czaplicki, Teresa Burroughs, Jen Iriti, Paul Brinsky, Todd Petrillo (exited at 8:20 PM), Bill Newcomer, Len Fornella

Absent: Lena Hannah

Others: Fred Wolfe, Tucker Arensberg, P.C.; Dr. Bille P. Rondinelli, Superintendent; Assistant Superintendent David Deramo; Student Representative Kristen Davis; Director of Finance/Human Resources Brian Tony; Director of Pupil Personnel Dr. Mandi Skerbetz; High School Principal Aaron Skrbin; High School Associate Principal Laurie Hartzell; Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski; Elementary School Principal Laurie Gray; Director of Maintenance and Grounds Dean Stewart; Custodial and Facilities Manager Steve Timmins; Construction Liaison Gene Manzini; David Esposito, Eckles Architecture; Joe Brennan, PJ Dick; Lindsey Bagwell, Jacob Meyer, and Cynthia Geisler, Superintendent’s Assistant/Board Secretary

The Board briefly discussed and agreed to have another tour of the High School prior to next week’s meeting at 6:00 PM.

Joe Brennan, PJ Dick provided the Board with an update of the High School Construction Project. Areas reviewed included:

- Financials, including the total value of current contracts to date, remaining contingency amount, current payment amount due, approved change orders to date and the following change orders pending Board approval for a total amount of $11,438.00:
  - Added support steel needed at corridor B011/B015
  - Relocate existing condensate piping
  - Change five existing flush valves to automatic flush valves
  - Add four horn/strobe fire alarm devices
  - Revised circuits and locations of tech-ed equipment
  - Add two weather proof duct detectors for RTU-E3

Mr. Brennan continued with the Progress report which included:

- Area A, F, and H – contract work complete, working on punch list items
- Area B/C – café/kitchen demolition complete; new walls and framing complete, finishes starting; new kitchen equipment will be installed starting July 17; perimeter furniture in commons installed, awaiting electrical connections; flooring began week of July 10; existing classroom renovations nearly complete
- Area G – nearly complete; punch list generated; staff moved into completed classrooms; terrazzo and tile work continues along with glass guardrail and handrails; final flooring tie-in and touchup painting is needed
- Area E – first floor nearing completion; lockers, casework, ceilings, and fixtures compete; bathroom fixtures and wall tile 90% complete; second floor nearing completion; Fab-Lab flooring
complete; casework and flooring 50% complete; detail and finish work continues; new instrument and uniform storage rooms complete for band camp on July 17.

- Site – ongoing activity around campus; second and final paving phase to start with the next week; landscaping has started; snowmelt areas prepped and awaiting heating contractor for installation; sidewalks nearly completed and heading towards area E; masonry 90% complete on expansion joint sealant and block sealing around entire building

Mr. Brennan reviewed pictures of the construction site.

The Board briefly discussed the charging stations and the ponding of water at the base of the newly installed stairs leading to the stadium parking lot.

Mr. Timmins reviewed the new floor designs for the High School Gym explaining a green stain will be used around the perimeter for better durability and paint for the logos in the center of each gym.

**Minutes**

Considered approval of the Minutes from the following Board Meetings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee Meeting</th>
<th>June 20, 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
<td>June 27, 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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 announced the following:

- Summer STEAM Camp going very well
- Strings Camp begins July 31
- Band Camp began
- New Teacher Induction August 7-10 and August 14
- New Teacher Reception August 15, location TBD; followed by the Board meeting

The Board discussed having tours of the High School for the students and the community. The following dates/times were considered:

- Meet the teacher day on August 17
- A Saturday or evening
- Freshman/New Student orientation on August 16
- Sometime during Homecoming Week
- Senior/Senior event on September 8
- Saturday, September 9

Student Representative Kristen Davis added it would be great for community members who don’t have children in school to see where their taxes are going and for parents to see the benefits of the new construction for their children.

Dr. Rondinelli continued:

- SFFE Golf outing a great success, thanked Todd, Len and all the volunteers
- Thanked custodial staff for keeping the High School clean with all the construction
- Leadership Team attended A World of Difference Workshop at Mt. Lebanon
- Enrollment update 3,142, 7 packets still out plus 24 out-placed students
**Business Office**

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to enter into an agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit d/b/a Waterfront Learning Services to provide virtual and hybrid needs for students for the 2017-2018 school year.

2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to accept the 2017-2018 IDEA 619 Pass Through Funds in the amount of $1,792.00 through the Allegheny Intermediate Unit DART Early Intervention Program. These federal funds will support school-age students, age 5, in Kindergarten receiving special education programs and services.

3. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Elementary School Principal Laurie Gray for Board approval of the rent for Extended Day Services for the 2017-2018 school year. The rates will be reviewed and a recommendation will be provided to the Board.

   Brian Tony reviewed two proposed rates for the 2017-2018 school year, one an average increase of 5.07% and the second an average increase of 4.65%.

4. 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.

5. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Maintenance and Grounds Dean Stewart, and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to enter into the annual (1-year) service agreement with Knight Sound and Lighting Inc., to provide service for our Microlite Relay System at the cost of $750.00. This is the same cost as last year.

**Personnel**

Personnel items were discussed in Executive Session

**Education**

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval to permit Jeff McGowan, High School Biology teacher to attend the National Association Biology Teachers Conference (NABT) as the recipient of the 2017 Outstanding Biology Teacher of Pennsylvania Award. The conference will be held in St. Louis, Missouri from Thursday, November 9, 2017 through Sunday, November 12, 2017. The costs will include registration, travel, lodging, meals, and a substitute teacher for two days, and will not exceed $1,600.

   Dr. Rondinelli added NABT will be at the opening day for staff to recognize Mr. McGowan.

2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent David Deramo, and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval to run 3-hour delay days in the High School for the administration of the Keystone Exams during the December 2017 and May 2018 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.
3. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the changes to the 2017-2018 Parent-Student Handbook for the High School, Middle School, Intermediate School, and Elementary School.

4. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the changes to the 2017-2018 Faculty Handbook for the Intermediate School and Elementary School.

The Board briefly discussed the portion regarding having the children stand during the Pledge of Allegiance and asked the Solicitor to review prior to next week’s meeting.

Transportation

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Transportation Donna Harshman for Board approval of the changes to the 2017-2018 Transportation Handbook.

Athletics

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Athletic Director Mark Keener for Board approval of the changes to the 2017-2018 Athletic Handbook for Students, Parents and Coaches.

Personnel items were discussed in Executive Session.

Construction

There were no additional items discussed.

Miscellaneous

Dr. Rondinelli reviewed the donation information provided to the Board from Amy Winokur regarding two $500 scholarships for one female and one male athlete. Dr. Rondinelli asked the Board Secretary to add the motion to approve the donation to next week’s agenda. Mrs. Geisler confirmed it will be added.

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

There were no comments at this time.

Brinsky seconded Newcomer to suspend the meeting at 7:52 PM and enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel and/or legal issues.

President Fornella announced votes will be taken after Executive Session.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Executive Session convened at 7:58 PM.

Mr. Petrillo exited the meeting at 8:20 PM.
Brinsky seconded Iriti to exit Executive Session at 8:42 PM and return to the committee meeting.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Brinsky seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval to reappoint Cynthia Geisler as Board Secretary retroactive to July 1, 2017 for a period of 4 years, as per School Code 404 and Board Policy 005 at the stipend of $4,200 per year for each of the next 4 years.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to accept the sabbatical leave of absence request for Nicole Marchinsky, High School English teacher for the first semester of the 2017-2018 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval for the following internal move in the Intermediate School for the 2017-2018 school year:

- Karley Rossi, Grade 4 to fill Grade 5 English Language Arts vacant position

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

There were no comments at this time.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Newcomer seconded Iriti on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire the following personnel for the 2017-2018 school year:

- Sarah Nee, Elementary School Special Education (50%) and Reading Specialist (50%) at Master’s +15 Step 2 rate of $51,205. The Reading Specialist position will be paid with Title 1 funds. This is a new position.
- Lyndsy Grinko, Biology teacher in the High School at the Master’s Step 1 rate of $49,300. This is a new position.
- Bryan Seybert, Chemistry teacher in the High School at the Master’s Step 2 rate of $50,956. This is a new position.
- Michelle Jenkins, English teacher in the High School at the Master’s Step 2 rate of $50,956. This is a new position
- Maura Schmidt, Special Education Permanent Substitute teacher in the Middle School at the Bachelor’s Step 1 rate of $47,300, prorated
- Kaitlyn Munnell, Intermediate School Special Education at the Master’s Step 2 rate of $50,956. This position is due to a retirement.
- Pricilla Sheader, Student Monitor in the Elementary School at the rate of probationary rate $9.31 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period the rate will be $11.64 per hour. Ms. Sheader’s days worked in the 2016-2017 school year will be counted towards her probationary period.
- Tara Mey, Food Service employee in the High School at the probationary rate of $9.03 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period the rate will be $11.29 per hour, pending receipt of required documents.

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

There were no comments at this time.

Voice Vote – All Yes
Brinsky seconded Vezzi on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire the following personnel for the 2017-2018 school year:

- Kelly Reed, English Permanent Substitute teacher in the High School at the Master's Step 1 rate of $49,300, prorated

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

There were no comments at this time.

Voice Vote – Vezzi, Czaplicki, Iriti, Brinsky, Newcomer, Fornella – All Yes
Burroughs – No

Brinsky seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the following mentor teachers for the 2017-2018 school year:

- Kara Miles
- Brenna Sisinni
- Bridget Amato
- Brooke Speakman (prorated)
- Kellie Coll (prorated)
- Peggy Clayton (prorated)
- Steven Klein
- Allison Okel
- Joe Winans
- Melanie Clonan
- Gina Roth
- Gary Smith
- Noelle Gagliardino
- Karla Schooley
- Anne Liberatore
- Emily Bigley
- Jeremy Hall (prorated)

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens for Board approval to hire the following personnel as consultants for the Summer STEAM Institute retroactive to June 19, 2017 at the EPR rate of $36.00:

- Rachel Geis
- Alex Hobbs
- Josh Patterson
- Melissa Unger
- Shad Wachter

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the placeholder to hire the following personnel for the 2017-2018 school year:

- Dana Populo, 5th Grade teacher at her normal pay increase. This vacant position is due to increased enrollment.
• Jeanne Tupper, Intermediate/Middle School Strings Camp Director for the 2017 Summer Strings Camp at the EPR rate of $36.00 per hour. The Strings Camp will run Monday, July 31, 2017 through Thursday, August 3, 2017.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the resignation of Amy Beck, Paraeducator in the Intermediate School effective retroactive to July 5, 2017.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Transportation Donna Harshman for Board approval to hire the following as Bus Drivers effective for the 2017-2018 school year at the probationary rate of $20.49 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be $25.62 per hour. These open positions are due to a retirement and a new route:

• Stacey Byerly
• James Yerkey

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Pupil Personnel Dr. Mandi Skerbetz for Board approval of the following personnel for the Extended School Year Program that will operate for 5 weeks in the summer of 2017. The May agenda approved this position as TBD:

• Personal Care Paraeducator at the rate of $17.86 per hour for the 2016-2017 school year and $18.39 per hour for the 2017-2018 school year, maximum 3.5 hours per day
  ✓ Taylor Dreste

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Pupil Personnel Dr. Mandi Skerbetz for Board approval of the following substitute (daily/as needed) personnel for the Extended School Year Program that will operate for 5 weeks in the summer of 2017:

• Special Education/Grade 5 teachers and Nurse at the rate of $36.00 per hour, maximum 4.0 hours of instruction and planning per day:
  ✓ Rebecca Rudy
  ✓ Darcy Kotts
  ✓ Hillary Bauer

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of a homebound tutor for the 2017-2018 school year. The tutor will be a current employee or a substitute teacher previously approved by the Board.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board retroactive approval of the following EPR position for the 2016-2017 school year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Olympics Club Head Coach</th>
<th>Elizabeth Kline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School Jazz Ensemble</td>
<td>Adam Wazenegger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1/2 of 1st Semester/Full 2nd Semester)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Aquatics Director Melissa DeGeorge for Board approval to hire the following as an Instructor at the rate of $8.00 per hour:

• Zachary Williams, effective retroactive to July 13, 2017

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

There were no comments at this time.

Voice Vote – All Yes
Newcomer seconded Brinsky on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Athletic Director Mark Keener for Board approval of Matt Bacco as the Assistant Athletic Director for the 2017-2018 season at the salary as per the contract.

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

There were no comments at this time.

Voice Vote – Vezzi, Czaplicki, Iriti, Brinsky, Newcomer, Fornella – All Yes
Burroughs – No

Brinsky seconded Newcomer to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 PM.

Voice Vote – All Yes

_________________________________

Cynthia Geisler, Board Secretary