The Regular Meeting of the South Fayette Township Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:02 PM in the Pride Room in the Administration Building by President Len Fornella with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Alan Vezzi, Alex Czaplicki, Lena Hannah, Teresa Burroughs, Paul Brinsky, Todd Petrillo (arrived at 7:31 PM), Len Fornella

Absent: Jen Iriti, Bill Newcomer

Others: Fred Wolfe, Tucker Arensberg P.C.; Dr. Bille P. Rondinelli, Superintendent; Assistant Superintendent David Deramo; Student Representative Kristen Davis; Director of Finance/HR Brian Tony; Assistant Director of Finance Maria Brewer Aguilar; Director of Pupil Personnel Dr. Mandi Skerbetz; Director of Maintenance and Grounds Dean Stewart; Custodial and Facilities Manager Steve Timmins; Elementary School Principal Laurie Gray; Elementary/Intermediate School Associate Principal Tyler Geist; Athletic Director Mark Keener; Teachers Molly Kuczinski, Charles Herring; Robert Owen, Amber Engram, Dana Monz, Javon Hines, John Alan Kosky, Pete Berger, Regis Schultz, Kate Boyce, Jacob Meyer, and Cynthia Geisler, Superintendent’s Assistant/Board Secretary

John Alan Kosky presented his request for modifications to be made to the LERTA program, primarily for the 5 year program to be extended to a 10 year program. He added the Township Commissioners support the request and will adopt whatever the School District approves.

Dean Stewart presented to the Board additional quotes to refurbish and upgrade the lights on the Middle School sign and new quotes to replace and/or repaint the existing guard rails around campus. The Board agreed to approve the amended motion to reflect the lower quote from ADM Signs for the refurbish and upgrade of the Middle School sign and add Penn Line Services to install stock guard rails and repaint existing guard rails.

Mark Keener presented the estimated cost information to transport the Boys Varsity and JV Lacrosse, Girls Varsity and JV Lacrosse, and Boys Varsity and JV hockey teams to all away games for the 2017-2018 seasons.

Mr. Petrillo arrived at 7:31 PM.

The Board discussed the District providing transportation for the teams mentioned above in lieu of the monetary contribution the District makes to the teams and agreed to have a motion added to the Athletics portion of the agenda to reflect this.

Minutes

Hannah seconded Vezzi on approval of Minutes from the following Board Meetings:

- Special Meeting: July 6, 2017
- Committee Meeting: July 18, 2017
- Regular Meeting: July 25, 2017
Minutes – Regular Meeting
August 22, 2017

**Financial Reports**

Brinsky seconded Hannah on approval of the following Financial Reports:

1. Aquatics Fund  
   Melissa DeGeorge
2. Athletic Fund  
   Mark Keener
3. High School Activity Fund  
   Harriet Dausch
4. Middle School Activity Fund  
   Harriet Dausch

Voice Vote – All Yes

**Superintendent’s Monthly Report – Dr. Bille P. Rondinelli**

Dr. Rondinelli reported the following:
- Enrollment at 3,264 with two starting on September 5
- Thanked the maintenance and custodians for preparing the High School and other school buildings for the first day of school
- Senior/Senior Night and Spaghetti Dinner – September 8
- High School Rededication and tours – September 9 at 10:00 AM
- ES/IS PTA Fair – September 24
- Exterior of buildings look great, handrails all match
- Thanked the Staff, Administrators, and Transportation for a great first day
- Fall season sporting events have begun

**Student Representative Report**

Kristen Davis reported the following:
- Every High School student had a tour of the building in their Social Studies class
- Students pleased and excited about the new spaces
- Fall sports seasons in full swing
- Successful band camps for Middle School and High School students

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

There were no comments at this time.

**Business Office**

Brinsky seconded Burroughs on 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, 2017 through June 30, 2018 and at a cost of $1,950.00. This price has remained the same since the 2014-2015 school year.

And on approval for Superintendent Dr. Bille Rondinelli, Assistant Superintendent David Deramo, and Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens to attend the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools EdSurge Fusion Conference in San Francisco, California from Wednesday, November 1, 2017 through Friday, November 3, 2017. 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, 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.

Voice Vote – All Yes
Brinsky seconded Burroughs on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Maintenance and Grounds Dean Stewart for Board approval of the three year renewal of the Siemens Digital Control (DDC) Agreement for all four school buildings, Stadium/Administrative Offices, Softball Stadium, and Transportation.

Voice Vote – Czaplicki, Hannah, Burroughs, Brinsky, Petrillo, Fornella – All Yes
Abstained - Vezzi

Vezzi seconded Czaplicki on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Maintenance and Grounds Dean Stewart for Board approval of the quote from ADM Signs to refurbish and upgrade the lights on the Middle School sign at a cost not to exceed $4,364.16; and for Penn Line Services to install stock guard rails and repaint existing guard rails around the campus at a cost not to exceed $2,905.00. The costs will be taken from the 2017-2018 Maintenance contingency funds.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Czaplicki seconded Brinsky on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the contract with Steeltown Security and Investigation to provide security services as per the contract, effective August 25, 2017 through August 19, 2018 at a cost of $40.00 per man hour.

Mr. Tony added the contract specifies which months will be excluded.

**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

Czaplicki seconded Hannah on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Pupil Personnel Dr. Mandi Skerbetz, and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to enter into an agreement with the following UPMC Centers to provide services for students effective retroactive to August 14, 2017 through July 31, 2018:

- Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic (WPIC)
- Acute Adolescent Partial Hospitalization Program (AAPHP)
- Licensed Inpatient School (LIS)
- Center for Overcoming Problem Eating (COPE)

**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

**Personnel**

New personnel items were discussed in Executive Session.
Education

Brinsky seconded Burroughs on 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 2018. The program will run Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM beginning June 18 through July 19, 2018. The District will be closed Wednesday, July 4, 2018. The cost of the program has been budgeted.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Curriculum, Innovation, and Technology Coordinator Stephanie DeLuca for Board approval to conduct a Girls Who Code Club in the Intermediate and Middle Schools effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval to permit Dr. Mandi Skerbetz, Director of Pupil Personnel to attend the 2018 National Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) conference in Tampa, Florida from Wednesday, February 7, 2018 through Saturday, February 10, 2018, at a cost not to exceed $1,750.00 (which includes travel, lodging, and meals). The cost of the conference is included in the 2017-2018 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the change to the Parent-Student Handbooks for all buildings.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Transportation

Mr. Tony reported the lift van and 48 passenger bus arrived on Friday, August 18 with inspections scheduled for the week of August 24 and the 72 passenger buses also to be delivered the week of August 24.

Athletics

Vezzi seconded Brinsky on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Athletic Director Mark Keener for Board approval to permit Joe Winans, Head Varsity Cross Country Coach and the Varsity Cross Country team to travel to Hershey, Pennsylvania from Friday, September 22, 2017 to Saturday, September 23, 2017, to compete in the PIAA Foundation Invitational at Hershey Park. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. There would be no cost to the District.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Brinsky seconded Burroughs on the motion for Board approval for the District to provide transportation for the following teams to away games at an estimated total cost of $10,578.95 for the 2017-2018 seasons and the elimination of the monetary donation the District makes:

- Boys Varsity and Junior Varsity Lacrosse
- Girls Varsity and Junior Varsity Lacrosse
- Boys Varsity and Junior Varsity Hockey

Voice Vote – Vezzi, Czaplicki, Hannah, Burroughs, Brinsky, Fornella – All Yes

Petrillo – No
Construction

Brinsky seconded Vezzi on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Joe Brennan, Project Manager, PJ Dick for Board approval of the following change orders for the High School Additions and Alterations Project for a total amount of $3,806.80:

- HC-003-1 – Relocate Existing 2 inch Condensate Pipe in Area B $ 885.15
- HC-003-2 – Delete New Dishwasher ($3,349.00) Ductwork and Re-use Existing
- HD-003-3 – Provide Interlock Control $2,323.65 Between Exhaust Fans and Equipment
- PC-006-1 – Add Solids Interceptor for Sink Disposal $1,152.00
- EC-009-1 – Lower Ten (10) Exit Signs, Remove and Relocate One (1), and Add One (1) Exit Sign $3,122.00
- TC-003-1 – Added Pipe Batten in Fab Lab $ 785.00 Room E121
- TC-003-2 – ASI #44- Library Makerspace (1,112.00) Option #2

Voice Vote – All Yes

Miscellaneous

Vezzi seconded Brinsky on the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval to endorse the following as PSBA candidates:

- David Hutchinson as President-elect (one year term)
- Eric Wolfgang as Vice President (one year term)
- Mike Gossert as Treasurer (three-year term)
- Larry Augustine as Central At-Large Representative (for remaining two years of a three-year term)
- Dan O’Keefe as Western At-Large Representative (three-year term)
- Michael Faccinetto and Marianne Neel as Trustees (term ends December 31, 2020)

Voice Vote – All Yes

Solicitor’s Report

Mr. Wolfe reported he has two items for discussion in Executive Session.

Expenditures

Vezzi seconded Brinsky to authorize payment of monthly invoices from the General Fund for the amount of $1,679,676.97 beginning with check number 58589 through check number 58783, the Cafeteria Fund for the amount of $4,641.61 beginning with check number 7259 through check number 7269, and the Construction Fund for the amount of $2,003,382.24 beginning with check number 509 through check 527.

Voice Vote – All Yes
Board Comments

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee Report

President Len Fornella

President Fornella had nothing to report.

South Fayette Foundation

Len Fornella

President Fornella had nothing to report.

PSBA/Legislative Committee Report

Lena Hannah

Mrs. Hannah reported emails were forwarded for Board review regarding public officials using Facebook to make comments can be considered public record.

Parkway West

Alan Vezzi

Vice President Vezzi reported renovations/construction to the food service area is wrapping up and enrollment continues to increase. Dr. Rondinelli added Dr. Copeland will be at one of the September meetings as part of the rotation for Parkway to visit School Board meetings.

SHASDA

Alex Czaplicki

Mr. Czaplicki had nothing to report.

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

There were no comments at this time.

Brinsky seconded Burroughs to suspend the meeting at 8:02 PM and enter into Executive Session to discuss legal and/or personnel matters.

President Fornella announced there will be votes after Executive Session.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Hannah seconded Vezzi to exit Executive Session at 8:03 PM and return to the Regular Meeting.

Voice Vote – All Yes

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

Javon Hines, Gneiss Drive, President of the youth football organization the Oakdale Raiders: Mr. Hines summarized a meeting held earlier in the day with the Administration regarding the condition the stadium was left in after their games on Saturday and were advised they will be denied the use of the stadium facilities again. Mr. Hines addressed the Board and apologized for the condition the stadium facilities were left in and takes full responsibility. He asked the Board for another chance to use the facility and added a 100% effort will be made to maintain the state of the facility from the parking lot and concession stands to policing the parking lot.
Dr. Rondinelli thanked Mr. Hines for attending the meeting in the afternoon and the Board meeting and his heartfelt comments. She also thanked Mrs. Monz for her call and genuine concern for the student players and the situation. Dr. Rondinelli added the situation will be discussed with the Board in Executive Session.

Dana Monz, Sterling Drive thanked Dr. Rondinelli and Mr. Deramo for taking time from their busy schedules to hold the meeting. She appreciates there are two sides to every story and teaches her children they are the face of South Fayette and how they respond is representative of the entire community. Mrs. Monz continued she received comments the event was amazing, well attended, and everyone was very accommodating. She seconded Mr. Hines’ comments regarding the cleaning of the bleachers and understands the scope of it. Mrs. Monz added the custodian was asked if there was anything else she could do and he answered no. She also communicated with Mr. Kurda and would have been happy to do anything at the time. Mrs. Monz concluded the parents and surrounding communities are very supportive of the athletics here.

Kate Boyce, Crestwood Drive, reiterated the comments by Mr. Hines and Mrs. Monz. My children are participating in a great program with dedicated parents and community. Ms. Boyce concluded the outcome of Saturday is not what we wanted and the parents of the players are committed that this will not happen again.

Robert Owen, Walnut Ridge Circle, as parents of two South Fayette students; 9th and 6th grade, this is the program our 6th grader wanted to play with. The opportunity to play on this field means a lot to the students. Our children have pride attending South Fayette and playing here. Our daughter has played almost every sport; track, soccer, and now volleyball and our son has played basketball, baseball, and hockey. We have supported our children in every aspect of their athletic experience and it will be a shame if the opportunity to play on this field is taken away. Mr. Owens concluded Mr. Hines and the organization did a nice job; they teaching the right things; are very professional and a very disciplined program and will not stand for people embarrassing or damaging this school and its reputation. I hope they get another chance.

President Fornella thanked everyone for their comments said this will be discussed further in Executive Session along with other personnel and/or legal issues and someone will get back to them.

Hannah seconded Burroughs to suspend the meeting at 8:15 PM and enter into Executive Session.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Executive Session convened at 8:16 PM.

Brinsky seconded Vezzi to exit Executive Session at 10:45 PM and return to the regular meeting.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Brinsky seconded Vezzi on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the following (call as needed) substitute teachers and support personnel for the 2017-2018 school year:

- Lauren Kimicata, Pre K-4
- Danielle Rudolph, Special Education PK-12/Elementary K-6
- Sarah Vierra, Elementary K-6, and as a Paraeducator at the rate of $9.65 per hour, or a Personal Care Paraeducator at the rate of $10.65 per hour
- Tiffany Dicks, PreK-4, pending receipt of required documents
- Diane Osourski, Math 7-12, pending receipt of required documents
• Marisa, Barron, English 7-12, pending receipt of required documents
• Jessica Patouillet, Grades 4-8 (4-6 all Subjects, ELA 7-8), pending receipt of required documents
• Carrie Chakravarti, Grades PK-4, pending receipt of required documents
• Carol Zaremba, Elementary, pending receipt of required documents
• Gail Komacki, Elementary K-6/Reading Specialist, pending receipt of required documents
• Kristi Kabutka, Early Education/Special Education, pending receipt of required documents
• Kylie Smith, Special Education PK-8/Grades PK-4, pending receipt of required documents
• Caitlyn Kourakos, Special Education PK-8/Grades PK-4, pending receipt of required documents
• Kristen Parness, Communications 7-12/English 7-12, pending receipt of required documents
• Sarah Cabonor, Elementary K-6/English as a Second Language (ESL), pending receipt of required documents

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire the following retroactive to August 21, 2017:

• Brayden Stoy, Permanent Substitute Special Education teacher in the Middle School at the Master’s Step 1 rate of $49,300, prorated
• Rachel Losego, Permanent Substitute Grade 1 teacher in the Elementary School at the Master’s Step 1 rate of $49,300, prorated

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

• Charlotte Austin (prorated)

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the leave of absence request for Sara Cremonese, Health and Physical Education teacher in the Middle School effective on or about December 1, 2017.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Custodial and Facilities Manager Steve Timmins for Board approval to hire the following as Substitute Custodians at the rate of $10.00 per hour, effective for the 2017-2018 school year and pending receipt of required documents.

• Joe Zahringer
• Robert Jerich

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Girls Basketball Coach Matt Bacco for Board approval of Rebecca Braithwaite as a Girls 7th/8th Grade Basketball Coach effective for the Fall 2017-2018 season.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Custodial and Facilities Manager Steve Timmins for Board approval to hire John Winnett as a custodian effective for the 2017-2018 school year, at the probationary rate of $10.73 per hour and pending receipt of required documents. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be $13.42 per hour.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Czaplicki seconded Brinsky on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to extend the Independent Contractor Agreement with GeneYES & Co. to September 30, 2017, at a rate of $4,000.
Voice Vote – All Yes

Czaplicki seconded Brinsky on the motion to approve a 3.75% salary increase for Superintendent Dr. Bille Rondinelli, effective retro-active to July 1, 2017.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Petrillo seconded Vezzi to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 PM.

Voice Vote – All Yes

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Cynthia Geisler, Board Secretary