Minutes

Tuesday, August 28, 2018
7:30 PM
High School Conference Center

The Regular Meeting of the South Fayette Township Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:34 PM in the High School Conference Center by President Alan Vezzi with the Pledge of Allegiance. President Vezzi 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: Todd Petrillo, Lena Hannah, Lex Czaplicki, Paul Brinsky, Teresa Burroughs, Len Fornella, Jen Iriti, Arik Quam, Alan Vezzi

Others: Fred Wolfe, Tucker Arensberg, P.C.; Dr. Kenneth F. Lockette, Superintendent; Assistant to the Superintendent for Elementary Education Stephanie DeLuca; Student Representative Julian Pikras; Director of Finance/Human Resources Brian Tony; Assistant Director of Finance Maria Aguilar; Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski; Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens; Teachers/Support Staff: Melanie Oyler, Chuck Herring, Angela Vogel, Leann Luck, and Dana Populo; Trista Thurston

Aileen Owens and Tom Kaminski proposed purchasing additional resources for the Robotics STEAM class in the Intermediate School at a cost of $16,851, which was not included in the 2018-2019 budget.

Minutes

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

Committee and Regular Meeting July 17, 2018

Voice Vote – All Yes

Financial Reports

Petrillo seconded Hannah to approve the following Financial Reports:

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

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 F. Lockette

Dr. Lockette reported the following:
- First day of school August 22 went very well
- First day for all staff August 21 in a late night talk show format
- Visited all the school buildings seeing the students engaged
- Additional visible security on campus
- Fall activities, curriculum nights, Senior/Senior night
- Strategic Planning stake holder meetings; September 20, October 1, and October 8 from 6 to 9 in the HS Studio; new mission vision, three year timeline; feedback from teachers, parents/guardians, and students
- “Pink Out” football game on October 12 changed to “Stand Up To Cancer” to honor survivors/families of all types of cancer, new t-shirts designed; the scholarships given from the t-shirts fundraisers have been given to students who have battled with cancer themselves or have a family member with cancer
- Friday, September 7, Threat Assessment Team training with Dr. Dewey Cornell from the University of Virginia, building and district teams will be trained to identify and act regarding mental health concerns; Norwin and Deer Lakes School Districts will also be attending

Student Representative Report

Mr. Pikras reported the following:
- Campus is lively due to the new building, read an article different architecture makes the mind work in a different way
- Ten students attended the National Student Council Conference in Minnesota; because SF is hosting the event next year, students observed how to promote student advocacy throughout all grade levels
- Fall sports season started August 13
- Representative Ortitay hosted a roundtable discussion on August 15, meeting with four students and staff regarding current safety measures; safety protocols that will be acted on and can be implemented statewide; shared their feelings of the current school environment and how social media can be a resource for potential threats throughout the district
- IS collected old Revolves over the summer and students will receive new Dell Latitude with silicone cases with rubber bumpers for safety
- 24 upperclassmen volunteered for freshman orientation
- MiniThon car wash held and raised about the same as last year, approximately $800
- Mother’s Day blood drive held in the Berkshires Community Center and organized by seniors Anvitha Ramagiri and Vinay Pedapati to benefit mothers and children throughout the district and area; 44 volunteers donated 36 units of blood that will help 108 people with life-saving blood products
- Student Government adding a tab to the SF website hoping to increase participation
- Homecoming Dance on September 29 and the carnival on September 27
- Over the summer, two students were invited and a few volunteered to attend the MiniThon Leadership Summit in Hershey where it was announced 283 high schools raised over seven million dollars, to benefit childhood cancer

Business Office

Brinsky seconded Petrillo 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, 2018 through June 30, 2019 and at a cost of $1,950.00. This price has remained the same since the 2014-2015 school year.
And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to authorize Civil and Environmental Consultants (CEC) to proceed with the Landslide Remediation Services Project dated March 13, 2018, at a total cost not to exceed $53,000. Approximately 12 weeks will be required to prepare the construction documents, bid forms, and submit the permit applications after authorization to proceed is granted. The costs will be taken from the HS Construction fund.

The Board requested a sub-surface investigation report to be compiled and presented to the Board to provide an opinion of costs prior bid specifications being prepared and sent out to bid. The Board added CEC needs to take the sub-surface investigation to whatever task they need to; based on the original proposal, in order to provide complete analysis.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval for High School Principal Aaron Skrbin to be appointed as the School Safety and Security Coordinator for the South Fayette Township School District pursuant to Section 1309B of the Pennsylvania School Code effective August 30, 2018

Voice Vote – All Yes

**Personnel**

Brinsky seconded Czaplicki on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of Jeremy Czarniak for the EPR position of Director High School Spring Musical effective for the 2018-2019 school year, pending receipt of required documents.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie for Board approval of a rate increase for the crossing guard for the 2018-2019 school year from $15.55 per hour to $16.06 per hour retroactive to August 22, 2018. The cost of the crossing guard is shared with South Fayette Township.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to change the 10-month Technology Assistant position which was previously Board approved to a 12-month position effective for the 2018-2019 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of a salary increase for Corrine Harkins, Intermediate School Media/Library Aide (adding District-wide Technical Assistant responsibilities) to $32,000 effective for the 2018-2019 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski for Board approval to hire the following at the Intermediate School for the 2018-2019 school year:

- Caroline Poiche, Student Monitor at the probationary rate of $9.59 per hour, and pending receipt of required documents. After completion of a successful probationary period the rate will be $11.99 per hour.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the following (call as needed) substitute teachers and support staff for the 2018-2019 school year, pending receipt of required documents:

- Alexis Cherup, English 7-12
- Amy Marino, Elementary K-6
- Allie Zwirn, Early/Elementary PK-6
- Kaley Wybranowski, Early/Elementary PK-6
- Suzanne Abbott, Elementary K-6
- Amat Alshaibani, Elementary K-6
- Taylor Caruso, Elementary PK-4
- Valerie Slater, Elementary PK-4/Special Ed PK-8
- Sarah Emanuel, Math 6-12/Social Studies 7-12
- Raquel Arthurs, Elementary Education; Classroom Paraeducator at the rate of $9.65 and Personal Care Paraeducator at the rate of $10.65 per hour
- Priyadharshini Barkiarajan, Clerical at the rate of $9.65 per hour
- Colleen Valentino, Clerical at the rate of $9.65 per hour
- Amel Ayachi, Clerical at the rate of $9.65 per hour
- Stephanie Hudgins, Clerical at the rate of $9.65 per hour, Classroom Paraeducator at the rate of $9.65, and Personal Care Paraeducator at the rate of $10.65 per hour
- Debby McCreary, Classroom Paraeducator at the rate of $9.65, and Personal Care Paraeducator at the rate of $10.65 per hour

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

Education

Iriti seconded Burroughs on the recommendation of the Superintendent for the Board to retroactively approve Aileen Owens, Director of Technology and Innovation, Melissa Unger, Intermediate School STEAM teacher, and Shad Wachter, Intermediate School Technology Literacy teacher to attend and present at the Scratch@MIT biennial international conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts from July 25, 2018 through July 28, 2018. The costs of the trip were included in the 2018-2019 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Middle School Principal Kristin Deichler for Board retroactive approval for Michael Perrott to attend the American School Counselor Association’s annual meeting in Los Angeles, California from Saturday, July 14, 2018 through Wednesday, July 18, 2018. The costs of the trip were included in the 2018-2019 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval for the team of Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Lockette, Assistant to the Superintendent for Elementary Education Stephanie DeLuca, and Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens to attend the Digital Promise - League of Innovative Schools Fall Cohort meeting in Park City, Utah from Wednesday, October 10, 2018 through Friday, October 12, 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 2018-2019 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval for Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens and Elementary STEAM Teacher Melissa Unger to travel to Pikeville, Kentucky from Wednesday, August 29, 2018 through Thursday, August 30, 2018, to continue their collaboration with STEAM initiatives. The costs of the trip were included in the 2018-2019 budget.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Pupil Personnel Dr. Mandi Skerbetz for Board approval to conduct the Extended School Year (ESY) program in the summer of 2019. The program will run Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM beginning June 17 through July 18, 2019. The District will be closed Thursday, July 4, 2019. The cost of the program has been budgeted.
And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the change to the Faculty Handbooks for the Elementary and Intermediate Schools.

The motion below was tabled until September.

1. The Superintendent and Elementary School Principal Laurie Gray recommend Board approval for Charlotte Rudolph, Elementary Music teacher to attend the 2018 Professional Development Conference sponsored by American Orff-Schulwerk Association (AOSA) in Cincinnati, Ohio from Thursday, November 8, 2018 through Saturday, November 10, 2018. The cost of the conference includes registration, travel, lodging, meals, and a substitute teacher for 2 days and is part of the 2018-2019 budget.

The Board discussed Ms. Owens request to purchase the additional resources for the Robotics STEAM class and requested that moving forward these costs be included in the budget and presented at the Committee meeting to give the Board the opportunity to discuss these costs. The Board made the following motion:

And to authorize the purchase of 41 Lego robots at a cost not to exceed $16,851 for the Intermediate School Robotics STEAM class.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Transportation

Brian Tony reported the District provided the South Fayette Community Day with six shuttle buses, six bus drivers, and six golf cart drivers to drive the carts provided by Hickory Heights Golf Club. He concluded the day went well and there were no issues with the buses or the drivers.

Athletics

Burroughs seconded Czaplicki 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 teams to travel to Hershey, Pennsylvania from Friday, September 21, 2018 to Saturday, September 22, 2018, to compete in the PIAA Foundation Invitational at Hershey Park. Students would be responsible for making up 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.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Construction

There were no items to discuss.

Miscellaneous

Brinsky seconded Czaplicki on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to accept the provided list of gifts/donations.

Voice Vote – All Yes
**Solicitor’s Report**

Mr. Wolfe had nothing additional to report.

**Expenditures**

Brinsky seconded Burroughs to authorize payment of monthly invoices from the General Fund for the amount of $2,276,991.18 beginning with check number 63115 through check number 63395, the Cafeteria Fund for the amount of $36,671.80 beginning with check number 7615 through check number 7642, and the Construction Fund for the amount of $14,620.00 beginning with check number 580 through 581.

Voice Vote – All Yes

**Board Comments**

There were no additional comments.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Executive Committee Report            President Alan Vezzi

President Vezzi had nothing to report.

South Fayette Foundation            Len Fornella

Mr. Fornella had nothing to report.

PSBA/Legislative Committee Report      Lena Hannah

Mrs. Hannah reported she sent out some emails regarding school safety task force report and a PSBA Legislative alert regarding Senate Bill 1095 that pertains to graduation requirements. Dr. Lockette added this Bill provides greater flexibility for graduation requirements by giving students alternative pathways in addition to Keystone Exams to demonstrate readiness for success after high school. Mrs. Hannah continued information regarding Act 44 was sent which pertains to school safety and security and requires districts to appoint a School Safety and Security Coordinator; which the District has done; and to create a threat assessment team.

Parkway West            President Alan Vezzi

President Vezzi reported Parkway is in session, renovations of bathrooms and corridors continues, enrollment is over 800 students, and continuing to evaluate education programs to keep them current.

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 Petrillo to suspend the meeting at 8:56 PM and enter into another Executive Session to discuss legal and/or personnel matters.
President Vezzi announced there will not be any votes taken after Executive Session.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Executive Session convened at 8:57 PM.
Quam seconded Iriti to exit Executive Session at 9:07 PM and return to the regular meeting.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Quam seconded Iriti to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 PM.

Voice Vote – All Yes

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Cynthia Geisler, Board Secretary