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

Present: Teresa Burroughs, Jen Iriti (arrived at 7:27 PM), Todd Petrillo, Bill Newcomer, Alex Czaplicki, Lena Hannah, Len Fornella (arrived at 7:09 PM), Paul Brinsky, Alan Vezzi

Others: Fred Wolfe, Tucker Arensberg, P.C.; Dr. Bille P. Rondinelli, Superintendent; Assistant Superintendent Dr. Michael Loughead; Student Representative Paige Franjione; Director of Finance Brian Tony; Assistant Director of Finance Maria Brewer Aguilar; Director of Pupil Personnel Dr. Mandi Davis Skerbetz; High School Principal Aaron Skrbin; Facilities Director Gene Manzini; Director of Transportation Donna Harshman; Athletic Director Mark Keener; Food Service Director Tricia Wood; Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens; Teachers Brittany Hambelton, Rachel Geis, Lauren Windstein, and Amy Krappweis; Suzanne Elliott, Rob Bowman, Charter Homes; Anthony Faranda-Diedrich, Charter Homes; Daniel Miles, EConsult; Ryan Eggleston, Lisa Malosh, Joe Horowitz, Lisa Carney, Lindsay Bagwell, Nicholas J. Rodi, Joseph Horowitz, Ryan Eggleston, Cassandra Renninger, Eckles Architecture; David Esposito, Eckles Architecture; John Taormina, PJ Dick; Lisa Malosh, and Cynthia Geisler, Superintendent’s Assistant/Board Secretary

Cassandra Renninger, Eckles Architecture updated the Board on the High School Additions and Alterations Project. Areas discussed included:
- OCIP (Owner Controlled Insurance Program), the direct method or the quote method. PJ Dick recommended the quote method and Eckles concurred. Ms. Renninger asked for direction from the Board on which way to proceed.

Mr. Fornella arrived at 7:09 PM.

- Provided a foundation system update with Eckles engineers recommending the caisson method, which is less costly and Eckles is proceeding with caisson and beams as the foundation system
- Traffic Study update – Trans submitted an updated study to the township, the township traffic engineer sent comments back with no red flags, Trans prepared a response and are awaiting for comments back from the township
- Land Survey Update – still waiting for a final survey, the district is coordinating with the surveyor
- Construction Logistics and Phasing - John Taormina, PJ Dick briefly addressed the following:
  - Finalizing the bid documents
  - Additional bid items include: egress issues, fencing, bus routing in back, staging area, roadway in back remains open for emergency purposes, parking for contractors, ceiling removal work
  - Timeline for the project of 18-19 months starting January 2016, certain areas completed in 12 months to create swing spaces to accommodate tie-in points, goal to complete the project summer 2017
Ms. Renninger presented three options for the bidding and construction timeline. The Board discussed these options which would require a special Board meeting to award the bids in late December or early January.

Mrs. Iriti arrived at 7:27 PM.

The Board revisited the OCIP discussion and determined to proceed with the quote method. President Vezzi added after conferring with the Solicitor, no motion is needed to give direction to Eckles and PJ Dick. Ms. Renninger reviewed the dates and times for the upcoming municipal meetings and the Board approvals for the next steps of PlanCon. The Board also discussed the football field turf graphics and the options for having the white yard line markings visible all the way across the field and replacing the logo. The Board asked Eckles to leave the current field drawing for their review and they will provide direction on other drawing options.

Dr. Rondinelli introduced Anthony Faranda-Deidrich, Charter Homes and his colleagues. She reviewed the district has attended several of the Township meetings regarding the proposed plans to build a housing development on the former Mayview property.

Mr. Faranda-Deidrich introduced Rob Bowman, President of Charter Homes and Daniel Miles from EConsult Firm who prepared the fiscal and economic impact study related to the project. Rob Bowman reviewed three things the Hastings Neighborhood will offer the Township and District:

- Mix of business uses, commercial, retail and office
- Diverse housing types
- Positive contribution

He continued 75 of the estimated 150 acres will be added to Fairview Park for use of green areas and additional sports fields and a new entrance into the park; older trees on the property will remain in the plan with 4 miles of sidewalks/trails. Mr. Bowman added the township rezoned the area from an institutional use to a business use in 2012 and the comprehensive plan identified it as mixed office and residential which will offer affordable housing consisting of:

- Single family homes with 3 or 4 bedrooms
- Townhomes
- Charter active living homes for active older residents
- Apartment homes – least impactful to a school district
- Mixed use buildings with private businesses on the first floor and apartments on the top floor

They will build, by ordinance, a minimum of 50,000 feet of business and believe will be 100,000 feet when complete. The development will provide the Township $600,000 in recreation fees, trail connectivity to Upper St. Clair park, a positive tax base and significant road improvements. Mr. Bowman reviewed information collected regarding approximately 100 building permits pulled over the past three years in South Fayette consisting of two types of homes, single family with 3/4/5 bedrooms which draws kids and townhomes. The Hastings plan will not include the larger homes; it is proposed to have 18% town homes, 19% single family homes with small 4,500 square foot lots to as large as 10,000 square foot of lots with most of them in the 6,500 square foot range. The remaining home types built will be targeted for single professionals. Specific information based on South Fayette, approximately 104 new homes generated between 100 and 120 students over the last 3 years.

The discussion continued regarding the following:

- Discrepancy in the proposed number of students presented by Mr. Bowman and the estimated number provided by Brian Tony at the August 25 meeting
- Whether the EConsult study assumed the district had the facilities and could absorb the additional students
- Demographic numbers used to determine the High School Construction Project did not include this development as the property was not zoned residential at the time the demographic study was done
Mr. Bowman indicated their information did not come from Charter Homes’ experiences, but is demographic information for Allegheny County based on the people who live in South Fayette and the surrounding townships. He added there is no data that provides that these housing types will produce 400 students. The conversation also included the district’s limited borrowing capacity for future construction to accommodate these additional students.

Brian Tony, Director of Finance reviewed the original information regarding the Charter Homes proposed development which was based on information from the Township Commissioner’s meeting on August 12. Working with limited information from the Charter Homes presentation showed school tax revenue of roughly $3,499,000, projections of 1.04 students per home at a cost to educate each student of $16,367 nets an annual loss of just over $4.6 million. The additional information from the Township and Charter Homes, with exact number of home styles and assessed values ranging from $120,000 to $461,760, the projected number of students increased from 496 students to 504, and the assessed value increases resulted in school tax revenue increase from $3,499,000 to $4,022,000. The annual net loss is now $4,232,000. Mr. Tony also reviewed one collected mill equates to $1,189,000 which would result in increasing the millage rate by 3.56 to offset the deficit, and with Act 1 limiting us to increasing taxes to the index and any approved exceptions, that is 4 times the amount the district would be approved for in one year. He added our only alternatives to the Act 1 limitations would be significant curtailments for arts, sports and extracurricular programs, personnel cuts and increased class sizes. The Business Office enrollment projections have been within plus or minus 10 students each of the past 4 years. Mr. Tony continued our enrollment has already increase by 90 students above Dr. Stewman’s projections for this school year, which does mean the number of students projected by Charter Homes would be on top of the 100 students per year in Dr. Stewman’s numbers. He commented our federal funding does not increase because student enrollment increases and the increased transportation needs would result in an additional $384,000 annually at a minimum. Mr. Tony added surrounding districts ratio of students per home is not the same as ours; they have fewer new homes being built and are consolidating buildings, concluding the County information is not specific to South Fayette.

**Minutes**

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

- Committee Meeting August 18, 2015
- Regular Meeting August 25, 2015

President Vezzi announced a break in the agenda for public comment.

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

Nicholas Rodi, Willowbrook Drive, I live by Mayview, This is my second family, when I send my 6 kids to school, I turn them over to you. My concern is the number of kids in the schools. Something is wrong with the numbers, get an independent study. If we don’t do something with this property, I know for a fact what’s going to happen, oil and gas. I’ve lived there and I’m not going to let it happen. It is a 9/11 bomb shelter down there and I face it every day; it’s disgusting. People are waiting for information and want this to fail, because they want oil and gas, they don’t care about my kids, nobody’s kids. I understand the demographics and I think it’s too many kids. You built this school and have done a fantastic job, I can’t commend you enough. Let’s make sure of the numbers. I don’t want any compressure station and I know who’s behind it and where they want to put 12 wells real fast, because they don’t care about my kids. I’d like the site cleaned up, but we’re not getting anywhere. Maybe the Township will take an independent study, I don’t know. I like the idea of cleaning it up. Is anyone going to be there for me and my kids when the evil ones are coming and want to win the election. There is going to be a mass exodus here. It’s about oil and gas. Aloe wants to give it to the oil and gas. All I’m asking is for you to protect my kids like you’ve done for so long. We have to clean it up. Take a third study. Thank you.
**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 following upcoming events:
- September 18 – Senior/Senior Night
- September 26 – Festival of Bands
- October 25-27 – League of Innovative Schools National Meeting

She added the District calendars are complete and will be distributed to students next week; the state budget is at an impasse; the 1-1 implementation is going very well; High School Assistant Principal hiring process is going well with final interviews on Friday, with at least two potential candidates for the Board to interview at the September 22 meeting. She concluded the Band wants to have a fundraiser and is asking for Board approval for to the old band uniforms to be recycled into pillows at a cost of $55 each or two for $100.

**Business Office**

President Vezzi announced there are items under the Business Office and a few other items on the agenda that will be voted on following the public comment section at the end of the meeting.

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Michael Loughead, Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens, and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with Digital Promise who will provide $20,000 to support the Product Efficacy & Feedback Project. There is no cost to the District for this project.

   Aileen Owens, Director of Technology and Innovation briefly explained the grant money awarded by Digital Promise and the Gates Foundation and our partnership with INVENTORcloud will be for our students to become engaged in prototyping using 3D printers.

2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Michael Loughead, Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens, and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the Licensing Agreement with INVENTORcloud to provide software applications and hardware technologies designed to promote STEM related disciplines for primary through post-secondary school students. There is no cost to the District for this project.

3. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval for the old band uniforms to be repurposed into novelty pillows as a fundraiser for the Band Boosters. There will be no cost to the district.

4. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Food Service Director Tricia Wood for Board approval to enter into an agreement with Fronius CN Consults to train the Food Service staff on the state required Primero Edge Program software to be used to enter data for the annual PDE Review. Compensation will not exceed $700 in addition to mileage reimbursement.
5. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Food Service Director Tricia Wood for Board approval to enter into an agreement with Carol H. Gilbert Consulting to compile the data and upload to the state for the annual PDE Review. Compensation will not exceed $1,500 in addition to lodging and mileage reimbursement.

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

**Personnel**

Personnel items were discussed in Executive Session.

**Education**

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Michael Loughead and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval to add Aleks as an online resource for Algebra I in the High School for the 2015-2016 school year. The cost is included in the 2015-2016 approved budget.

2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval for PASC District #3 Director Felix Yerace to travel with the selected representatives to attend the Pennsylvania Association of Student Councils (PASC) State Conference from Thursday, November 12, 2015 through Saturday, November 14, 2015, at the Harrisburg Hilton and Crown Plaza Hotels in Harrisburg, PA. Student government is funding all expenses for this trip, except for the cost of the daily substitute teacher. Students will be responsible for all school work during their absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration.

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 New York City, New York from Thursday, March 31, 2016 through Sunday, April 3, 2016 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.

4. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval for Band Director Eryn Carranza and Assistant Band Director Kevin Maurer to travel with the band to New York City, New York from Thursday, March 31, 2016 through Sunday, April 3, 2016 for their annual Band 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 2015-16 school year. For audit purposes, the records will be kept in the transportation office.

**Athletics**

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

There were no additional items discussed.

**Miscellaneous (data in yellow)**

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval to endorse the following as PSBA candidates:
   - __________________ as President-elect
   - __________________ as Vice President

**Solicitor’s Report**

Mr. Wolfe reported there is one informational item for Executive Session.

**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 additional comments at this time.

Burroughs seconded Fornella on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Michael Loughead, Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens, and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with Digital Promise who will provide $20,000 to support the Product Efficacy & Feedback Project. There is no cost to the District for this project.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Michael Loughead, Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens, and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the Licensing Agreement with INVENTORcloud to provide software applications and hardware technologies designed to promote STEM related disciplines for primary through post-secondary school students. There is no cost to the District for this project.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval for the old band uniforms to be repurposed into novelty pillows as a fundraiser for the Band Boosters. There will be no cost to the district.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Michael Loughead and High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval to add Aleks as an online resource for Algebra I in the High School for the 2015-2016 school year. The cost is included in the 2015-2016 approved budget.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Newcomer seconded Petrillo to suspend the meeting at 9:25 PM and enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel and/or legal issues.

President Vezzi announced votes will be taken after Executive Session.

Voice Vote – All Yes
Executive Session convened at 9:31 PM.

Petrillo seconded Newcomer to exit Executive Session at 9:57 PM and return to the committee meeting.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Newcomer seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire the following substitute (call-as-needed) teachers and support personnel:

- Jacob Locke, Social Studies, pending receipt of required documentation
- Brittany Miller, English 7-12
- Jared Beadle, Elementary PK-4/Special Education K-8
- Jennaeer Vuono, Grades PK-4
- Nicole Henson, Graded 4-8 (All Subjects 4-6, Mathematics 7-8)
- Lauren Del Duca, Special Education PK-8/Grades PK-4
- Naomi Dabroski, Grades 4-8 (All Subjects 4-6, Science 7-8)
- Amrita Dey, Bus Aide at the prevailing rate of $16.83 per hour
- Carol Capozzoli, Bus Aide retroactive to August 28, 2015 at the prevailing rate of $16.83 per hour
- Shiva Chaturvedi, Student Monitor at the rate of $7.50 per hour
- Suneetha Katta, Food Service at the rate of $8.50 per hour, pending receipt of required documentation
- Michael Sherry, English 7-12, pending receipt of required documentation
- Christine Marshall, Special Education PK-8/Early Childhood PK-4, pending receipt of required documentation

Voice Vote – All Yes

Hannah seconded Brinsky to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 PM.

Voice Vote – All Yes

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Cynthia Geisler, Board Secretary