

MAY 2, 2017

The Freedom Area School Board held their Committee/Agenda Meeting on May 2, 2017, in the Middle School Library. President Sayre called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Board Members Present:

Alan Colorito
Dawn Greene
Gerald Inman
Julie Leindecker
Lori Pail
Mary Ann Petcovic
Lorraine Rocco
Jennifer Sayre

Board Members Absent

Harry Gilarno

School Staff Present:

Dr. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent
Noriene Plate, Business Manager
Misty Slavic, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
William Deal, Principal, High School
Steven Mott, Assistant Principal, High School
Richard Edder, Principal, Elementary School
Gary Mortimer, Director of Buildings and Grounds
John Rosa, Faculty and Athletic Director

Solicitor:

N/A

GUESTS: Public sign-in sheet is attached to the minutes in the minute book.

Senior High School students were in attendance to observe a School Board meeting to fulfill Graduation requirements.

COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA:

Education Committee:

Misty Slavic, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, reported that PVAAS Data continues to show the slow growth of our Highly Proficient and Advanced students in 6th grade math. These students are showing some growth but it does not equal the expectation of a full year. Traditionally, focus for student improvement has centered on the lower achieving students, not the high or high average student. Since Pennsylvania has changed the student learning objectives to emphasize growth for all students, we feel it is important to accommodate our Highly Proficient and Advanced students as well as the lower achieving students. In order to do so, we must be able to enrich the current curriculum and encourage student growth for the high and high average 6th grade math student. As a result, we want to create an advanced 6th grade math course that includes an accelerated and enriching scope and sequence and syllabus by incorporating 7th grade math standards. This will allow the pacing of the class to be such that the

students are continually challenged and engaged, and receiving instruction at a level equal to their academic ability.

Pre-requisites for the sixth and seventh grade advanced math courses have been established. In order to be enrolled for the class, the student must meet three of the four established pre-requisites. **(Copy of the outline is attached to the minutes in the minute book)**

Finance Committee:

A meeting date to discuss/review the 2017/2018 District Budget was scheduled for April 27, 2017. Noriene Plate, Business Manager, reviewed a working copy of the 2017-18 preliminary budget.

AGENDA REVIEW AND ACTION ITEMS:

COMMUNICATIONS:

- High School Spanish Club Students who attended the recent trip to Peru were in attendance. They provided an overview of the places they visited, the food they ate, and a salsa dancing experience to name a few. More importantly, they talked about how seeing other parts of the world have left a lasting impression on them. The students said it was eye-opening to see a pre-school that did not have indoor plumbing for the students and how we take advantage of what we have in this Country. They all agreed the experience expanded their world view and thanked the board for the opportunity to make this trip.
- William Deal, High School Principal, extended congratulations to members of the FHS Press and Adviser Aaron Fitzpatrick for receiving a 2017 Scholastic Newspaper Award. FHS Press Won First Place with Special Merit (for a Senior High School with Enrollment of 500 and Under) from the American Scholastic Press Association (Administrative Report).

Aaron Fitzpatrick, Faculty and FHS Press and Adviser, introduced the newspaper students in attendance. Hannah Shumsky, Editor-in-Chief, thanked Mr. Fitzpatrick for all he has done to help them both personally and with the newspaper. Ms. Shumsky presented Mr. Fitzpatrick with the May H.O.P.E. Award.

PUBLIC/COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

President Sayre reviewed Board Policy 903: Public Participation in Board Meetings, saying members of the public must preface their comments with their name, address, and group affiliation (if appropriate). All comments should be addressed to the Presiding Officer, be relevant to business that is before the Board and observe required timelines (Prior Formal Request – 10 Minutes, Informal Request – 5 Minutes). Comments should not be personally directed, abusive, or obscene

- Mrs. Carol-Lynn Dubovi, New Sewickley Township, expressed her opinion on why the district is having difficulty finding substitute teachers and made several suggestions that she thought may help.
- Natalie Dubovi, High School Freshman, said she was speaking on behalf of her Biology class asking when the District would provide a valid replacement for their Biology teacher currently out on leave. Dr. Fuller, Superintendent, explained that the District is working with Kelly Services to find a long-term substitute at this time.
- Mr. Frank Lorkovich, New Sewickley Township, requested transportation for his daughter who is attending the Community College's Aviation Center, Chippewa Township.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Motion by Rocco, seconded by Petcovic, to approve the following request:

To engage the firm of Strassburger, McKenna, Gutnick and Gefsky to represent the District in a Personnel Matter at a rate of \$175 per Hour.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Sayre, Inman, Rocco, Petcovic, Pail, Greene, and
Vote Leindecker. Motion carried – 8 Yeas

EDUCATION:

Motion to approve the following Education items was made by Rocco, seconded by Petcovic, and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

- CA:1 Memorandum of Understanding with the Pennsylvania Department of Education allowing the District to participate in the Pennsylvania Dashboard/Early Warning System and Intervention Catalog (Administrative Report)
- CA:2 Adjudication for Disciplinary Hearing held on April 4, 2017 (Signatures Required)
- CA:3 Participation in the BVIU's Drug Abuse Prevention Grant, No Cost to District
- CA:4 Resignation from David Simons, Instructional Aide, effective April 28, 2017
- CA:5 Amendment to Agreement with Hope Learning Center (Approved March 14, 2017) to include an Instructional Aide at a cost of \$35 per hour (Pending Solicitor Review)

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Sayre, Inman, Rocco, Petcovic, Pail, Greene, and
Vote Leindecker. Motion carried – 8 Yeas

OPERATIONS:

Motion to approve the following Operation items was made by Rocco, seconded by Petcovic, and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

CA:1 Released Time, According to Policy, for the following to attend monthly Freedom Road Upgrade Progress Meetings, May 2 and 30, June 27, July 25, August 29, October 3, Freedom, Cost Mileage (Will split dates):

1. Noriene Plate, Business Manager/Transportation Director
2. Linda Eldridge, Administrative Assistant to the Business Manager for Payroll and Benefits Coordination

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Sayre, Inman, Rocco, Petcovic, Pail, Greene, and
Vote Leindecker. Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Gary Mortimer, Director of Buildings and Grounds provided the following monthly report:

Monthly Report:

On April 19th, the Middle and Elementary Schools experienced a loss of phase B power which energized the generators. When restored, the second of two transfer gear switches failed to disengage the generator at the Elementary School. A shorted main control board on transfer gear number two was found. The emergency contacts were manually opened, we closed the normal contacts and shutdown the generator. The board has been ordered with an estimated cost of \$2,100.00.

After several attempts to reseal the roof leaks along the wall on the third wing of the Middle School, approximately 180 feet of aluminum counter flashing was installed. The mortar joint was cut and flashing installed to seal over the top of the roof membrane against the brick wall.

The district has contracted with Trane to repair the Middle School chiller system. Currently we have a refrigerant leak on circuit one. The system will be operating at half capacity until repaired.

We have contacted Labor and Industry on two outstanding boiler inspection certificates for the H. B. Smith Boilers at our Middle School. Inspection was completed January 6th, forms were submitted and we are awaiting certificates.

We have completed replacement of Roof Top 12 terminal block and overload on the return air fan at the High School. In addition, two combustion motors, a relay and an actuator have been replaced. Roof Top 13A return fan parts have just arrived and will be installed this week. Also, a new electronic panic bar assembly has been ordered to repair the front High School entry doors. Delivery of parts will be approximately 2 weeks at a cost of \$1,600.00.

The normal monthly water testing for chlorine in the district has been completed. In addition, Campbell Labs completed the third-party water testing on Monday April 24th. All tests were found to be within the normal range. At the Conway School, Labor and Industry completed an inspection of both boilers on April 17th. The boilers failed inspection due to piping completed with the low water cutoff in 1990. On April 26th, both low water cutoff controls were re-piped, removing the shutoff valves as required. We are submitting the required forms to proceed with attaining our new boiler certificates.

As an update, due to the power outage at the High School we have currently lost 5 of 6 fan control transformers which operate the gym exhaust system. One fan motor and an additional heat relay were also replaced. We are currently working through the systems to verify any additional repairs.

ATHLETICS/EXTRA-CURRICULAR:

Motion to approve the following Athletics/Extra-Curricular items was made by Rocco, seconded by Petcovic, and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

- CA:1 Confirm Released Time, per policy, for John Rosa, Athletic Director and Mark Ross, Assistant Football Coach plus eight (8) members of the Football Team to attend Steeler Youth Football Camp, Heinz Field, Pittsburgh, April 29, Cost Meals
- CA:2 James Walker as Head Junior High/Assistant Varsity Football Coach, Salary According to Contract (Pending Receipt of Act 151 and 114 Clearances and Act 24 Report)
- CA:3 Alexa Yanyanin as Athletic Intern thru Point Park University for Summer 2017 (Will be Placed with John Rosa, Athletic Director) (Pending Receipt of Act 114 Clearance) Unpaid position.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Sayre, Inman, Rocco, Petcovic, Pail, Greene, and
Vote Leindecker. Motion carried – 8 Yeas

John Rosa, Athletic Director, provided the following monthly update:

SPRING SPORTS UPDATES

Varsity Baseball - 9-4 overall, 7-3 in section play Currently Ranked 4th in WPIAL

Varsity Softball - 5-7 overall, 1-6 in section play

Varsity Boys Track - 9-2 overall, 6-1 in section meets

Varsity Girls Track - 7-4 overall, 4-3 in section meets

JH Baseball - 2-7 overall

MS Softball - 5-4 overall

MS Boys Track (no records kept) team improving

MS Girls Track (no records kept) team improving

Boys Track won the section title, and is running in the WPIAL Team Semi Finals on 5/2

Baseball is looking good for a WPIAL Playoff berth, and has an outside shot at a section title

Softball needs two wins this week to secure a playoff spot

TRIB CUP STANDINGS – holding in 4th in Class 3A

CLASS 3A

1. Shady Side Acad. 158 points
2. Oakland Catholic 81
3. Seton-La Salle 77
4. Freedom 72
- 5t. Beaver Falls, Steel Valley 64

Positive things happening:

- The Football Team donated time at the Steelers Youth Camp this past weekend
- Football Boosters are holding a Sportsman's Bash on May 21

Need to consider Cheerleading restructure (Fall, JH, Winter); Low numbers for winter cheer

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Leindecker, for the Board to go into Executive Session at 8:27 pm for a personnel matter.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Sayre, Inman, Rocco, Petcovic, Pail, Greene, and
Vote Leindecker. Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Leindecker, for the board to go out of Executive Session at 8:40 pm.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Sayre, Inman, Rocco, Petcovic, Pail, Greene, and
Vote Leindecker. Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Motion by Greene, seconded by Petcovic, to approve Robert Prentice, Assistant Varsity Football Coach (Clearances on File) salary according to contract.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Sayre, Inman, Rocco, Petcovic, and Greene
Vote No Votes – Colorito, Pail, and Leindecker. Motion carried – 5 Yeas

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Colorito, seconded by Petcovic, for the Board to adjourn the Committee/Agenda Meeting and go into Executive Session at 9:05 pm for a personnel matter.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Sayre, Inman, Rocco, Petcovic, Pail, Greene, and
Vote Leindecker. Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Leindecker, for the board to go out of Executive Session at 9:15 pm.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Sayre, Inman, Rocco, Petcovic, Pail, Greene, and
Vote Leindecker. Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Adjourn Motion by Greene, seconded by Pail, to adjourn. All members voting Yea.
8 Yeas. Adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Submitted by:

Lorraine Rocco, Board Secretary