

**March 17, 2016**

The Freedom Area School Board held their Regular Board Meeting on March 17, 2016, in the Middle School Library. President Sayre called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

**Board Members Present:**

Alan Colorito  
Harry Gilarno  
Dawn Greene  
Gerald Inman  
Julie Leindecker  
Lori Pail  
Mary Ann Petcovic  
Lorraine Rocco (Via Telephone)  
Jennifer Sayre

**Board Members Absent:**

**School Staff Present:**

Dr. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent  
Noriene Plate, Business Manager  
William Deal, Principal, High School  
Frank Hernandez, Middle School Principal  
Scott Smith, Construction Representative/Clerk of Services  
Gary Mortimer, Director, Buildings & Grounds

**Solicitor:**

Matt Hoffman

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

**NOTES:** Senior High School students were in attendance to observe a School Board meeting to fulfill graduation requirements.

THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS MET IN CONFERENCE ON THURSDAY,  
MARCH 3, 2016 FOR A BOARD MEMBER TRAINING PRESENTED BY PSBA

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Freedom Area High School H.O.P.E. and Student of the Month awards for February 2016 were presented by Principal Bill Deal:

1. H.O.P.E. Award (Theme – “Someone VERY Important Along the Way”):
  - Cheryl Blinn, Custodial Staff Member
  - Student of the Month Awards (Theme – “Resilience”)
    - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade:
      - Boy - Tyler Sharpless
      - Girl - Daisy Ward
    - 11<sup>th</sup> Grade:
      - Boy - Dean Ward

- Girl - Trish Pfeiffer
  - 10<sup>th</sup> Grade:
  - Boy - Gavin Mengel
  - Girl - Breanna Kress
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Grade:
  - Boy - Sam Socash
  - Girl - Rae Glomosila
2. Freedom Area Middle School H.O.P.E. Award for March 2016 (Theme – “Makes Class Fun”) (Administrative Report):
    - Rich Heisler, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher
  3. Elementary School H.O.P.E. Awards for March 2016 (Theme – “Patience”) (Administrative Report):
    - Stephanie Hill, Third Grade Teacher
    - Karen Suhayda, Second Grade Teacher

The District is in receipt of a letter from the Freedom Area Community Task Force thanking the District for the Monetary Donation in the amount of \$1,500 and its support of the many sponsored activities provided for the Freedom Area Students

Other:

- April 2016 Board Meeting to be held on April 7
- Use of School Facilities Schedule (According to Policy) (Enclosure)
- Presentation on Freedom Area High School’s American Cancer Society Relay for Life (K.C. Hastings, Amy Isanogle, Dillon Spencer, Brianna Frashure)
- John Cummins, Chairperson of the Freedom Cares Cash Bash reported on the success of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Cash Bash held on February 27, 2016 saying \$35,000 was made that evening for the various school groups. Tickets were sold at \$50 each, returning \$58 to the students with additional concessions.

**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.

## MINUTES

Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Gilarno, to approve the Business meeting minutes of February 11, 2016.

Roll Call    Yea Votes – Colorito, Inman, Rocco, Pail, Sayre, Petcovic, Gilarno, Leindecker,  
Vote            and Greene. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

## ENCLOSURES

- A. Use of School Facilities Schedule (Communications - Item C.)
- B. Free-Reduced Lunch Report as of March 7, 2016 – District at 48.98%
- C. Cyber/Charter School Enrollment as of March 3, 2016 – Current Projected Annual Cost for 2015-2016 School Year \$757,848.09; 33 Cyber/Charter Students, 32 Brick and Mortar Students – Total No. of Students -65
- D. BVIU School Board Notes for February 24, 2016 Meeting
- E. March 2016 Budget Transfers (Finance - Item F.)
- F. BVIU 2016-2017 General Operating Budget (Finance – Item G.)
- G. Updated List of Bus and Van Drivers and Vehicle Aides (Operations - Item C.)
- H. Catalog discount bids for July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018 (Operations – Item E.)
- I. List of Student Activity Account Signatures for Students and Activity Sponsors (Extra-Curricular – Item G)

## SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Dr. Fuller, Superintendent, reported on the following:

**Pennsylvania Educational Leadership Summit** - This summer the educational leadership associations from across the state, including the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators, the Pennsylvania Association for Supervision, Curriculum, and Design, the Pennsylvania Middle Level Educators Association, and the Principals Association are holding the Pennsylvania Educational Leadership Summit in State College. This summit will provide excellent professional development for our administrative team as we continue to work at moving the district forward and supporting our students and staff. Board support for participation in this event is requested.

Attending the Pennsylvania Educational Leadership Summit, July 24-26, State College, PA, Cost registration, lodging, meals and tolls, not to exceed \$4000, Will use school van.

Those attending will be:

1. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent
2. Misty Slavic, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
3. Richard Edder, Elementary Principal
4. Frank Hernandez, Middle School Principal
5. William Deal, High School Principal
6. Ryan Smith, High School Assistant Principal

**Staff Trip to Mars** - Last Spring we met with the Education Committee of the Board to review some new instructional resources that our curriculum committees were considering. While the middle school math teachers elected to move forward with the purchase of the Pearson Digits program, the elementary staff asked to pilot the Pearson Envision 2.0 series. District teachers asked to set up a visit to the Mars School District because they have been using the program for three (3) years. We were able to set up this visit for this past Tuesday. Teachers from all K-5 grades except three attended. Additionally, a special education teacher who is piloting the series attended. The trip was extremely successful, and as a result of the pilot project and the visit, the committee has recommended that we move forward with the purchase of the Envision 2.0 program to support math instruction in our K-5 classrooms. With this implementation, we will achieve our goal of having consistent instructional resources to support math instruction in our classrooms from kindergarten through the 8th grade, providing consistent instructional methodology, vocabulary, and resources for all of our students. Mrs. Slavic is working with the publisher to finalize their proposal and we expect to bring that before the Board for review and approval in the near future.

Confirm: The following to visit Mars School District to review Envisions Math Program, March 15, Cost substitutes, Will use school van:

1. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent
2. Misty Slavic, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
3. Rich Edder, Elementary Principal
4. Candy Bomberger, First Grade Teacher
5. Linda Haffner, Fourth Grade Teacher
6. Karen Suhayda, Second Grade Teacher
7. Jennifer VanDeCar, Kindergarten Teacher
8. Jennifer Glover, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Learning Support Teacher
9. Kelly Guerra, Fifth Grade Teacher

**Snow Make-up Day** - As was approved on the District calendar and advertised on the District website, the make-up day for the instructional day lost due to snow on February 16 will be Tuesday, March 29 - the Tuesday following Easter Break.

**Adjudications** - The Board held three disciplinary hearings on March 2, 2016. A motion to approve the findings of fact and adjudications for those cases are requested. (Signatures Required)

**Coffee Talk** – Wednesday, March 23, 2016, we are going to try a new way of sharing information with our community. We will have our first ever Coffee Talk. We have invited parents and community members to join the entire administrative team in the Middle School Student Center for a cup of coffee and a conversation about our schools. We will have a brief overview of the exciting things going on in our schools, then open the floor for questions. We are looking forward to meeting with the community in an informal manner and hope to have a great turnout. Please share the information with as many people as possible.

**PSBA ESSA Report** - One of our Board members, Mrs. Lorraine Rocco, was asked by the Pennsylvania School Board's Association, to serve on a committee that was looking at the new federal regulations - the Every Student Succeeds Act. Because Mrs. Rocco isn't able to be with us in person this evening, we will defer her report on this very beneficial experience until next month's meeting.

**Special Education Transition Grant** - Mrs. Slavic also is not able to be with us this evening. However, we want the Board and public to be aware that she is working on a significant grant with BCRC - The Beaver County Rehabilitation Center - that will help to facilitate the transition services that we provide to our special education students who are nearing the end of their high school career and preparing to transition into college, the workforce, and life beyond high school. You can be looking for more information on that grant project in the next couple of months.

**Special Education Plan** - The District is required to update our district-wide Special Education Plan every three years. Mrs. Slavic has worked with staff to develop a draft of the new plan that will be made available for public review. The Board will be asked to approve the plan for submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education in our April meeting. If any member of the Board would like to review the plan, please contact Mrs. Slavic and she will happily provide you with a copy.

**PASBO Legislative Efforts Concerning the State Budget** - Mrs. Plate attended the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials conference in Hershey last week. During the conference, PASBO set forth their plan for encouraging our legislators and governor to develop and approve a new state budget. While it appears that some of those individuals heard that call this week, the response was not universal. I have asked Mrs. Plate to provide the Board with an overview of PASBO's planned course of action.

I would now look to the Board for a motion to approve items A, B, and D of the Superintendent's Report.

Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Colorito, to approve the following items listed above:

- A **Pennsylvania Educational Leadership Summit and attendees**
- B **Staff Trip to Mars**
- D **Adjudications**

Roll Call    Yea Votes – Colorito, Inman, Rocco, Pail, Sayre, Petcovic, Gilarno, Leindecker,  
Vote            and Greene. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

### **FINANCE:**

Motion to approve the following Finance items was made by Gilarno, seconded by Greene, and unanimously approved through consent agenda: **(Copies of items CA:1 – CA:6 are attached to the minutes in the minute book)**

CA:1    Bills in the amount of \$590,965.59 (Second Check Run for February 2016)

- CA:2 Bills in the amount of \$362,614.46 (First Check Run for March 2016)  
 CA:3 Primary Center Construction Payment in the amount of \$25,178.92 (First Check Run for March 2016); as approved by VEBH Architects and S. P. Smith Construction (Handout – Scott Smith)  
 CA:4 February 2016 Treasurer’s Report

	<u>February 2016</u>
Wesbanko - Money Market	\$ 4,749,313.91
Wesbanko - Payroll	\$ 795.14
Wesbanko- General Checking Account	\$ 15,357.29
PA Treasury Invest	\$ 1,424,045.21
PSDLAF – Regular Account	\$ 0.00
PSDLAF Max - General Fund	\$ 822,629.03
PSDLAF Term – General Fund	\$ 0.00
Multiple Banks General Fund – CD’s	\$ 1,480,000.00
PA Treasury-Invest Capital Projects	\$ 459,222.53
PSDLAF Max – Capital Projects	\$ 30,962.98
Wesbanko – Student Activity Account	\$ 54,560.25
Wesbanko Bodkin Scholarship - CD	\$ 201,402.44
Wesbanko Bodkin Scholarship	\$ 26,607.40
PSDLAF MAX – 2014 Construction Fund	\$ 0.00
PSDLAF – 2014 Construction Fund	\$ 8,514.44
Wesbanko - Capital Projects Checking	\$ 480,229.58
Wesbanko - Capital Projects – CD	\$ 202,113.90

- CA:5 February 2016 Cafeteria Report  
 CA:6 Updated March 2016 Budget Transfers (Enclosure) (Handout)  
 CA:7 BVIU 2016-2017 General Operating Budget in the amount of \$1,796,190 (Decrease of \$319,782 from 2015-2016 Budget – \$303.04 Increase to District) (Enclosure) (Signatures Required)

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Inman, Rocco, Pail, Sayre, Petcovic, Gilarno, Leindecker,  
 Vote and Greene. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

### **EDUCATION:**

Motion to approve the following Education items was made by Petcovic, seconded by Greene, and unanimously approved through consent agenda according to Act 48:

- CA:1 Approve Released Time According to Act 48:

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

1. Other:
  - a. Susan Suleski, Middle School Guidance, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual School Safety Summit, May 3, Slippery Rock, Cost Mileage
  - b. Rich Edder, Elementary Principal, 2016 PAFPC Annual Conference, May 2, Seven Springs Resort, Cost mileage plus tolls

#### **STUDENTS AND STAFF TRAVEL:**

1. Gifted:
  - a. Confirm: Academic Games Competitions, November 6 and 19, 2015 and January 21,

February 2 and 17, 2016, Location Varies, Cost registration fees plus transportation:

- i. Sara Miller, K-8 Gifted
  - ii. Jennifer Glover, Gifted Co-Sponsor
- b. Sara Miller, K-8 Gifted, Academic Games National Competition, April 22-26, Atlanta, Georgia, Cost substitute (April 26 only), registration fees, lodging, meals plus transportation (Rental Car and Airfare)
2. Other:
- a. Confirm: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Community Service, February 11, Rochester Manor, No Cost to District:
    - i. Wendy Clibbens
    - ii. Jeanine Ging
    - iii. Lisa Moore
    - iv. Tina Strati
    - v. Cindy Zeigler
  - b. Kristen Milanovich, High School Freedom Fortune 500 Club Sponsor, Pittsburgh Pirates Game, April 15 (After School), PNC Park, No Cost to District
  - c. Michelle Koutsourais, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Teacher, PA Math Counts Competition, March 18-19, Harrisburg, Cost Substitute (March 18, PM only), lodging (Coach only, \$60) plus registration fees (\$325)
  - d. Open Doors to Court Program, April 7, Pittsburgh, Cost substitute (Krawchyk only) plus transportation:
    - i. Rita Kaplin, High School Counselor
    - ii. Kelly Krawchyk, High School Social Studies Teacher
  - e. Beth Majors, High School Business/Technology Teacher:
    - i. Southwest Bots IQ - Final Competition, April 8-9, California Univ. of PA, No Cost to District, Will Use School Van
    - ii. National DECA Conference, April 22-27, Nashville, Tennessee, Cost substitute, registration fees, lodging and transportation (Airfare and Rental Car)
  - f. 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp Kon-O-Kwee Science Field Trip, May 9, Fombell, PA, No Cost to District (Paid by PTA):
    - i. Susan Camp
    - ii. John Capehart
    - iii. Linda Haffner
    - iv. Kristine Ricci
    - v. Amanda Whitworth
  - g. Special Olympics Track and Field, May 12, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Cost transportation:
    - i. Jessika Fontaine, High School Learning Support Teacher
    - ii. Cara Seymour, High School Learning Support Teacher
  - h. Joy Crouch, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher, Nationality Rooms, University of Pittsburgh Cathedral of Learning, June 9, Oakland, No cost to District (Target field trip grant)
  - i. Keith Kovalic, High School Music Teacher/Band Director:
    - i. PMEA State Band, March 30 – April 2, Hershey, Cost substitute, registration fee, lodging, mileage plus tolls

CA:2 The following as part-time Teachers to provide “Instruction in the Home” after School

from February 15 through the end of the School Year, Salary According to Contract:

1. Jessika Fontaine, High School Learning Support
2. Laura Gundlach, Middle School Learning Support Aide
3. Lisa Liptak, Middle School Learning Support

CA:3 Request from Keith Kovalic, High School Music Teacher/Band Director, to host the First Ever Combined Beaver County Band and Chorus Holiday Concert in November 2016

CA:4 FMLA (Intermittently), According to Policy, for Amy Giles, Middle School 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, effective approximately February 16, 2016, thru February 15, 2017

CA:5 The Following Student Teachers:

1. Charles Mignanelli from Clarion University, to be placed with Maria Porter, High School Social Studies Teacher, August 30 through October 21, 2016 (Pending receipt of Clearances)
2. Mary French from Geneva College, to be placed with Nathaniel Langelli, High School Social Studies Teacher, Spring of 2017 (Pending receipt of Clearances)

CA:6 Agreement with Adagio Health. Inc. to conduct the Power Up...Eat Right Nutrition Education Program for the Elementary School, effective October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017

CA:7 Extended Sick Leave, According to Policy, for Barbara Willis, Autistic Support Teacher, effective March 18, 2016 through April 12, 2016

CA:8 Acceptance and distribution of a Renew Grant in the amount of \$4,500 to be used for Special Education Transition Services

CA:9 FMLA (Intermittently), According to Policy, for Amie Buzza, First Grade Teacher, effective approximately March 14, 2016 thru March 13, 2017

Roll Call Yea Votes – Inman, Rocco, Colorito, Pail, Sayre, Petcovic, Gilarno, Leindecker,  
Vote and Greene. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

### **OPERATIONS:**

Motion to approve the following Operations items was made by Gilarno, seconded by Colorito, and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

CA:1 Updated list of Bus and Van Drivers and Vehicle Aides (Enclosure)

CA:2 Agreement with Trane Building Services for UV Coil Replacement, Located in Classroom D115 at Middle School, Cost \$4,480

CA:3 Catalog Discount Bids for July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018 (Enclosure)

CA:4 The following as substitutes for Food Services:

1. Robert Dunbar, Retroactive to March 10, 2016 (Pending Act 34, Physical and TB Test/Statement)
2. Pamela Powell (Pending Acts 151 and 114, Physical and TB Test/Statement)

CA:5. Five-Year Copier Lease with WPS, Inc., No increase in Budget for the length of the Lease (Administrative Report) (Handout)

Roll Call Yea Votes – Colorito, Inman, Rocco, Pail, Sayre, Petcovic, Gilarno, Leindecker,  
Vote and Greene. Motion carried – 9 Yeas



NOTE: The District will seek appraisals for Conway and Big Knob Properties

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

**Monthly Summary:**

- A new exterior entry door with frame has been installed at the Middle School secondary gym entrance. Included with the installation was a new card reader to eliminate a key entry for sporting event access. Painting of the door to be completed as the weather permits.
- Replacement of the hot water heater, valves and piping which serves the High School student center and library needs. The water supply was frozen to replace the faulty supply valve and piping without disrupting the water needs of the building.
- Replacement of the hot water heater which serves the science labs has been scheduled for over Easter break due to re-piping requirements.
- High School: repairs have been completed to the roof top 17 control system. Installation of the new heat exchanger, burners, ignition control, and fan relay board has been completed on Roof Top A. Roof Top A serves the science lab chemical room at the High School.
- General repair and service with the plumbing and HVAC equipment including, motors, belts and control work at the Middle School.
- Working thru general building issues at the Elementary with the bleachers, sprinkler and HVAC systems.
- Fencing and grounds repairs have started with the weather breaking and the start of spring sports.

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR:**

Motion to approve the following Extra Curricular items was made by Greene, seconded by Gilarno, and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

- CA:1 Aaron Fitzpatrick as Public Relations Director Sponsor for the School District  
Newsletter, Salary According to Contract
- CA:2 Confirm: Released time, According to Policy, for Thomas Liberty, Head Football Coach, plus staff, to attend Erie Area Coaches Clinic, Erie, PA, March 11-12, Cost \$100  
Registration fee plus lodging
- CA:3 The Following Coaches, Salary According to Contract:
1. Mark Ross, Assistant Football Coach (Pending Updated Act 114, Act 126 and TB Test/Statement)
  2. Franzee Barlamas, Middle School Baseball Coach (Clearances on File)
  3. James Yonlisky, Assistant Football Coach (Pending Acts 114 and 126 and TB Test/Statement)
  4. Andrew Murray, Volunteer Track Coach (Clearances on File)
  5. Frank Mercier, Volunteer Softball Coach (Pending completed)

application)

6. John Baldwin, Assistant Football Coach (Pending Acts 34 and 114 and TB Test/Statement)

CA:4 Released Time, According to Policy, for the following to attend the UPMC High School Sports and Concussions Seminar, April 7, Heinz Field, Pittsburgh, Cost Mileage:

1. John Rosa, Athletic Director
2. Thomas Liberty, Head Varsity Football Coach
3. Jackie Crytzer, Athletic Trainer

CA:5 The Resignation of Tion Piehler and Tami Smithmyer as Co-Sponsors for the Middle School Pep Club, effective end of 2015-2016 School Year

CA:6 List of Student Activity Account Signatures for Students and Activity Sponsors (Enclosure)

Roll Call Yea Votes – Greene, Colorito, Sayre, Gilarno, Rocco, Inman, Pail, Petcovic, Vote and Leindecker. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

Bill Deal, High School Principal, gave the following monthly report in the absence of the Athletic Director:

1) **WINTER SPORT HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Girls Basketball** – Girls lost a close first round playoff game, Courtney Susan and Deanna Drobka selected for Quigley Classic

**Boys Basketball** - Evin DiCiero selected for Quigley Classic, Hunter Giles will play in the Roundball Classic

**Wrestling** – Team finished as WPIAL Runner Ups

Kody Komara (3rd) and Evan Sweesy (8th) Placed at States

Jim Covert was names Section 1AA and WPIAL AA Coach of the Year

Levi Bonzo was selected to the MAC/OVAC Clash of Champions Match

**Gymnastics** - Jenna Engle and Hailey Baldinger competed in the State Championships

**Hockey** – Our boys that play for Blackhawk lost in the playoffs

2) **SPRING SPORTS**

Baseball – 21 on Varsity                                      22 on Middle School

Softball – 16 on Varsity                                      13 on Middle School

Track – 74 on Varsity                                      45 on Middle School

The Middle School Volleyball Team is showing great progress

3) The tribune rankings have us tied for 6th place in overall AA Rankings

4) Winter strength and conditioning training is going very well, 30-35 kids in weight room on a daily basis.

**FACILITIES MASTER PLAN:**

Scott Smith, Construction Representative, gave a construction progress update saying the General Contractor, Mechanical Contractor (HVAC), and Plumber are making progress on the punch list.

**POLICY:**

Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Pail, to approve the following revised Board Policies:

1. Policy No. 610 – Purchases subject to Bid/Quotation
2. Policy No. 611 – Purchases Budgeted

Roll Call    Yea Votes – Greene, Colorito, Sayre, Gilarno, Rocco, Inman, Pail, Petcovic,  
Vote            and Leindecker. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Leindecker, for the Board to adjourn the business meeting and go into Executive Session at 8:15 pm to discuss Legal and Personnel Matters.

Roll Call    Yea Votes – Greene, Rocco, Gilarno, Petcovic, Sayre, Pail, Leindecker, Colorito,  
Vote            and Inman. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

Motion by Greene, seconded by Leindecker, for the Board to go out of Executive Session at 9:35 pm.

Roll Call    Yea Votes – Greene, Rocco, Gilarno, Petcovic, Sayre, Inman, Leindecker, Colorito,  
Vote            and Pail. Motion carried – 9 Yeas

Note: No action taken following Executive Session.

Adjourn    Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Greene, to adjourn. All members voting Yea.  
                  9 Yeas. Adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Submitted by:

Lorraine Rocco, Board Secretary