

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 12, 2021

The regular meeting of the Freeport Area School District Board of School Directors scheduled for 7:30 pm in the Audion of the Freeport Area High School, 625 South Pike Road, Sarver, Pennsylvania, was called to order by Mr. Daniel P. Lucovich, President, at 7:35 p.m. As noticed, public participation in the meeting was both in-person and via live stream audio/submission of comments by email.

Roll call:

Ms. Bollinger	Present
Ms. Davies	Present
Mr. Haven	Present
Mr. Hill	Present*
Mr. Huth	Present
Mr. Lucovich	Present
Dr. Prazenica	Present
Mr. Selinger	Present
Mr. Toncini	Present

Administrators participating were Mr. Magness, Superintendent; Mr. Robb, Program Director; and Mr. Walker, Business Manager. Also participating was District solicitor Mr. Daniel Conlon.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Lucovich welcomed members of the public listening by live stream audio.

Mr. Lucovich solicited public comment on the items on the posted agenda.

Public Comment

The Board Secretary read the public comments submitted by email from Cassidy and Mathew Hack, Kimberly Pauline, Rebekah Shearer, Denise Wallace, Ana Linares and Phill Claditis, Becky Jenkins, Angela Jarmul, Sara Jones, Amy Jarmul Smith, Emily Geist, Michelle Lenhart, and Matt Smith, and Patrick Schweiger, all of Buffalo Township.

Reports

1. It was moved by Mr. Toncini, and seconded by Mr. Selinger, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on June 3, 2021, and the Regular Meeting held on June 10, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Ms. Dobransky reported that the Board met as follows since her last report to the Board at the Regular Meeting on June 10, 2021: The Board's Negotiations Committee held a negotiations session with representatives from Freeport

*Mr. Hill participated by telephone conference call.

Education Association on June 29, 2021. The Board's Negotiations Committee held an information session on June 30, 2021. The Board's Negotiations Committee held a negotiations session with representatives from Freeport Education Association on July 6, 2021. The Board's Negotiations Committee held a negotiations session with representatives from Freeport Education Support Personnel Association on July 20, 2021. The Board met in Executive Session on July 22, 2021, to discuss Personnel matters. The Board's Negotiations Committee held a negotiations session with representatives from Freeport Education Support Personnel Association on July 27, 2021. The Board met in Executive Session on August 5, 2021, to discuss Safety and Security, Personnel, and Contracts and Negotiations matters. The Board held a Special Meeting for general business purposes followed by its Committee Meeting on August 5, 2021. The Board met in Executive Session on August 12, 2021, to discuss Safety and Security, Personnel, Contracts and Negotiations, Legal Matters, and Confidential Student Matters.

3. Mr. Magness presented his Administration Report. He noted that orientation programs were underway at all schools.
4. Mr. Lucovich reminded visitors that the new school year would begin in 14 days, with the District providing 5-day per week of face to face instruction. He reminded parents and guardians of the need to keep sick children at home and not send them to school where they risk infecting others. He commended the District marching band on its performance at Kennywood Park the previous week.
5. Mr. Lucovich reported that Lenape Technical School's board would meet the following week, on August 19, 2021, and that visitors are welcome to attend the meeting.
6. Dr. Prazenica reported that the Armstrong Indiana Intermediate United (ARIN) IU 28 executive director would be in attendance at the Board's September 2 meeting and that the 2022 ARIN Convention of School Directors would be held at Freeport Area Middle School on April 28, 2022.
7. Mr. Selinger reported for the Athletics Committee that the Make-a-Wish Foundation would be supplying new uniforms for the Freeport Area High School Football program, to fulfill the wish of Freeport Area senior Garrett King.
8. Ms. Bollinger presented her Legislative report as provided on the attachment.
9. Ms. Bollinger reported that the Freeport Area School District Foundation was currently in the process of hiring a new executive director to oversee operations.

Personnel

It was moved by Dr. Prazenica, and seconded by Mr. Selinger,

- a. To accept the attached resignation of Terri L. Ramer, part-time Cafeteria Worker, effective August 11, 2021.
- b. To approve the employment of Amanda T. Devola and Megan N. Manke as Educational Assistants, at an hourly wage rate of \$14.00, effective August 13, 2021, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre employment requirements.
- c. To approve the employment of Shannon M. Kooser and Julie M. McKay as Educational Assistants, at an hourly wage rate of \$13.00, effective August 13, 2021, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre employment requirements.
- d. To approve the employment of William P. Swedish as a full time Custodian, at an hourly wage rate of \$13.45, effective August 13, 2021, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre employment requirements.
- e. To approve the attached list of Educational Assistants and School Nurse Assistants for the 2021-2022 school year.
- f. To approve the attached list of bus drivers for the 2021-2022 school year as recommended by the State Auditors.
- g. To approve the proposed contract settlement between the Freeport Education Association and the Freeport Area School District as provided on the attachment.
- h. To approve the employment of the paid and volunteer individuals listed on the attachment for the District's Athletics Programs during the 2021-2022 school year, with salaries in accordance with contracted terms of remuneration approved by the Board and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.
- i. To approve the employment of the paid and volunteer individuals listed on the attachment for the District's Extracurricular Programs during the 2021-2022 school year, with salaries in accordance with contracted terms of remuneration approved by the Board and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.
- j. To approve the employment of Megan A. Lewandroski as a Long Term Substitute Teacher for the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year, effective August 23, 2021, at the annual salary provided by contract at Step 1 for a teacher with a bachelor's degree, prorated for days worked, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.

- k. To approve the employment of Kayla J. Uveges as a Long Term Substitute Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year, effective August 23, 2021, at the annual salary provided by contract at Step 1 for a teacher with a master's degree, prorated for days worked, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Motion carried unanimously, *except* that Mr. Haven and Mr. Hill both voted *No* on Personnel item (g), which carried on a vote of seven (7) to two (2).

Curriculum and Technology

It was moved by Ms. Bollinger, and seconded by Mr. Haven,

- a. To approve the attached revised High School student handbook/code of conduct for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Athletics and Activities

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Mr. Selinger,

- a. To approve the attached revised Return to Play Plan and authorize submission and posting by Administration as mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
- b. To approve the request of Thomas D. Koharchik, Musical Advisor, for approval of the 2021-2022 High School student productions of a musical on November 20-21, 2021, and a musical on March 3-5, 2022.
- c. To approve the request of Thomas D. Koharchik, Musical Advisor, for approval of the 2021-2022 Middle School student production of a musical on April 1-3, 2022.
- d. To approve the request of Robert W. Harris, Buffalo Elementary School Choral Director, for approval of the 2021-2022 Buffalo Elementary School student production of a musical on March 17-19, 2022
- e. To grant pre-approval for the Music Department High School student field trip to Nashville, Tennessee, departing on June 7, 2022, and returning on June 10, 2022, described on the attachment.

Motion carried unanimously.

Policy

It was moved by Mr. Huth, and seconded by M. Hill,

- a. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 146.1 (Trauma-Informed Approach).
- b. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 218.1 (Weapons).
- c. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 218.2 (Terroristic Threats).
- d. To tentatively approve the adoption of the attached new School Board Policy No. 236.1 (Threat Assessment).
- e. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 246 (School Wellness).
- f. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 247 (Hazing).
- g. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 249 (Bullying/Cyberbullying)
- h. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 252 (Dating Violence).
- i. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 334 (Sick Leave).
- j. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 805 (Emergency Preparedness and Response).
- k. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 805.2 (School Security Personnel).
- l. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 916 (Volunteers).

Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Mr. Huth,

- a. To approve the adoption of the attached revised Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan (as presented by Administration) and authorization for submission and posting by Administration, as mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Roll call vote requested. Roll call vote:

Ms. Bollinger	<u>No</u>
Ms. Davies	<u>Yes</u>
Mr. Haven	<u>No</u>
Mr. Hill	<u>No</u>
Mr. Huth	<u>Yes</u>
Dr. Prazenica	<u>Pass*</u>
Mr. Selinger	<u>No</u>
Mr. Toncini	<u>No</u>
Mr. Lucovich	<u>No</u>

Motion *did not carry* on a vote of two (2) to six (6).

*Dr Prazenica later announced his vote should be recorded as a “No.”

It was moved by Mr. Huth, and seconded by Ms. Davies,

- a. To approve the adoption of the attached revised Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan (as further revised to eliminate the option to require masks for staff) and authorization for submission and posting by Administration, as mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. Toncini, and seconded by Mr. Huth,

- b. To approve the attendance of Daniel P. Lucovich at the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators/Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PASA/PSBA) School Leadership Conference on September 27-29, 2021, in Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania, at a cost to the District of approximately \$1,000, to include registration, lodging, mileage, and meals.
- c. To authorize the Board President and the Board Secretary to execute the attached Confirmatory Deed.
- d. To approve the attached Temporary Construction Agreement with Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC for the grant of a temporary easement for access to construct and install a gas pipeline on District property in South Buffalo Township, Armstrong County, for consideration payable to the District of \$1,000.
- e. To approve the attached Agreement to Sell or Purchase Meals from Sponsor to Sponsor with Early Learning Connections (Headstart) from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

- f. To approve the attached Program Placement Agreement with Butler Area School District for the potential placement of students in the Center Avenue Community School during the 2021-2022 school year, at a cost of \$155 per day for the Emotion Support Program, \$194.50 per day for the Autistic Support, Life Skills Support, and Multi-Disability Programs, and \$1,000 annually for the Extended School Year Program.
- g. To approve the attached Services Agreement with The Children's Institute of Pittsburgh for educational services to be provided to resident students whose IEPs provide for alternative educational placements, for a term from July 1, 2021, through July 30, 2022, and with fees as provided on Exhibit A to the Agreement.
- h. To approve the attached Agreement with MHY Family Services for services which may be provided to District resident students under the Private Academy Program at Longmore Academy during the 2021-2022 school year, at the daily rates set forth on Attachment B to the Agreement.
- i. To approve the attached letter of agreement with the Armstrong-Indiana Behavioral and Developmental Health Program for the provision of mental health liaison services under the District's Student Assistance Program (SAP) through the Family Counseling Center during the 2021-2022 school year.
- j. To approve the attached Clinical Support Tuition Service Agreement with Pittsburgh Behavioral Services, Inc., for services to be provided during the 2021-2022 school year, at a cost to the District of \$33,642.
- k. To approve the attached Lease Agreement with the Butler County Children's Center, Inc., for the lease of space at South Buffalo Elementary School in connection with the operation of a Head Start Program, from August 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, for a monthly rental payable to the District of \$500.
- l. To approve the attached PSBA Policy Maintenance Program Participation Agreement with Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) for participation in the PSBA School Board Policy Maintenance Program from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, at no additional cost to the District.
- m. To approve the attached Mutual Aid Memorandum of Understanding for Emergency Management with the other districts and vocational technical schools in Armstrong and Indiana counties.
- n. To accept a grant in the amount of \$2,000 from The Blackbaud Giving Fund on behalf of PPG for the Freeport Area Middle School Recycling and Sustainability Projects.

- o. To accept the DonorsChoose.org donation for the Buffalo Elementary School Project: "Ms Manofsky's Book Nook!" described on the attachment (Total Project Cost \$292.60).
- p. To accept the donation from Make-A-Wish Greater Pennsylvania and West Virginia of 75 new uniforms (jerseys, pants, cleats, arm guards, and mouth guards) to the Freeport Area High School Football program.

Motion carried unanimously.

Finance

Mr. Lucovich welcomed Mr. Walker to the District on behalf of the Board.

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Mr. Huth,

- a. To approve the attached June and July financial reports.
- b. To approve the bills for payment listed on the attachments.
- c. To adopt the Free and Reduced Lunch Policy and Guidelines as established by the Department of Education to be included in district policy for the 2021-2022 school year.
- d. To authorize Administration to prepare and file objections, as provided under 71 P.S. §§ 1709.1507, to the attached finding of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development's State Tax Equalization Board dated June 30, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meetings

Mr. Lucovich announced that the Board would hold a Committee Meeting on Thursday, September 2, 2021, at 7:30 pm and its next Regular Meeting on Thursday, September 9, 2021, at 7:30 pm.

Comments from the Public

The Board Secretary reported that there were no additional public comments submitted by email.

Gary Risch of Buffalo Township commented on the makeup of the District's Health and Safety Plan Committee and the school board meeting live stream.

Comments from Board Members

Ms. Davies and Dr. Prazenica requested that Administration respond to the parents with concerns about the use of the gymnasiums for lunch periods.

Mr. Toncini reported that he had attended the Buffalo Elementary orientation and commended the school administration and staff on their hard work. He noted that the new paint work at Buffalo Elementary is a nice improvement, and he congratulated the High School marching band on their recent performance at Kennywood Park.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Toncini, and seconded by Mr. Selinger, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. The President declared the meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

/s/ Daniel P. Lucovich

President

/s/ Mary Dobransky

Secretary