



South Fayette Township School District

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

7:30 PM

High School Studio

REVISED AGENDA

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – President Len Fornella

- ◆ Pledge of Allegiance
- ◆ Facilities Update – Dan Engen, DRAW Collective

AGENDA APPROVAL:

1. The Superintendent and Solicitor recommend Board approval of the September 26, 2023 revised Regular Meeting agenda. **The following new motions were received and added today:**
 - **The Superintendent and Elementary School Principals recommend Board approval of the resignation of a mentor teacher for a Grade 1 Permanent Substitute teacher, effective retroactive to September 25, 2023.**
 - **The Superintendent and Elementary School Principals recommend Board approval of a mentor teacher for a Grade 1 Permanent Substitute teacher, effective September 26, 2023.**
 - **The Superintendent and Director of Transportation recommend Board approval of the resignation of a bus driver, effective on or about October 6, 2023.**
 - **The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of the FMLA leave of absence request for a Biology teacher in the High School, effective retroactive to September 11, 2023.**
 - **The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval to hire an Intermediate School Building Substitute teacher effective retroactive to September 21, 2023.**
 - **The Superintendent and Facilities Director recommend Board approval to hire a custodian, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year.**
 - **The Superintendent, Director of Technology, and Director of Finance/HR recommend Board approval to hire a Technology Assistant (12 month position) with an effective date to be determined.**

I. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from the following Board Meetings:

Committee Meeting
Regular Meeting

August 15, 2023
August 22, 2023

2. Approval of the following Financial Reports which have been reviewed by the Superintendent and Secondary Administration:

Athletic Fund
High School Activity Fund
Middle School Activity Fund

Mark Keener
Sharon Aprea
Sharon Aprea

3. Authorization for payment of monthly invoices from the General Fund for the amount \$1,017,883.09 beginning with check number 75624 through check number 75857, the Cafeteria Fund for the amount of \$104,544.56 beginning with check number 8580 through check number 8598, and the Construction Fund for the amount of \$20,543.50 beginning with check number 038 through check number 039.

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

The Board will hear comments from residents and/or taxpayers related to items appearing on the Agenda for action by the Board. The Board will receive comments from residents and/or taxpayers on topics that do not appear on the agenda for action by the Board at the conclusion of the agenda, prior to adjournment. The time limit for comments shall not exceed three (3) minutes. The Board will not respond to questions during this session, but will only hear comments. (As per revised Policy 006 – “Meetings” adopted April 26, 2022)

Old Business

New Business

Superintendent’s Monthly Report – Dr. Michelle Miller

Student Representative’s Monthly Report

II. BUSINESS OFFICE

At the Committee Meeting on September 19, 2023, the Board of School Directors acted on the following two items:

Brinsky seconded lagnemma on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler for Board approval of the agreement with Maxim Healthcare Staffing Services, Inc., to provide licensed health care providers for supplemental staffing services effective retroactive to July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, in final form as approved by the District Solicitor.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler for Board approval of the contract to conduct a 90-day pilot project with Simcoach Games, effective September 25, 2023, in final form as approved by the District Solicitor. Simcoach Games will provide transition-based games for the life skills classrooms in both the Middle and High Schools at a cost of \$2,000, which is included in the 2023-2024 budget.

Voice Vote – All Yes

1. The Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony recommend Board approval of the Professional Services Agreement between the South Fayette Township School District and the Lancaster-Lebanon IU13, for Cristine Wagner-Deitch, Director of Curriculum to

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provide data leadership consulting services to PIL (Pennsylvania Inspired Leaders), effective retroactive from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The District will receive an amount not to exceed \$3,981.25.

2. The Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie recommend Board approval of the sale of 17 District vehicles to Songer Services, for a total of \$33,000.

III. PERSONNEL

At the Committee Meeting on September 19, 2023, the Board of School Directors acted on the following 18 items:

Brinsky seconded Vezzi on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler for Board approval of the resignation of Teresa Jones as a Personal Care Paraeducator in the Elementary School effective retroactive to August 31, 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for retroactive Board approval to hire the following personnel for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Nicolle Smith as a Personal Care Paraeducator in the Elementary School, pending receipt of required documents, effective September 11, 2023, at the probationary rate of \$17.57 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$21.96 per hour.
- Olivia Iagnemma as a Grade 1 Permanent Substitute teacher in the Elementary School, pending receipt of required documents, effective September 15, 2023, at the Bachelor's Step 1 rate of \$51,000, prorated for the 2023-2024 school year.

Voice Vote – Burroughs, Iriti, Hannah, Brinsky, Vezzi,
Fornella – All Yes
Abstained – Iagnemma

Brinsky seconded Vezzi on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire the following personnel for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Dr. Mai Hassan as a Grade 2 Permanent Substitute teacher in the Elementary School, effective retroactive to August 23, 2023, at the PhD/EdD Step 1 rate of \$56,000, prorated for the 2023-2024 school year. She was approved as a Long Term Substitute teacher in August for the same position.
- Maura Pendergast as a Grade 1 Long Term Substitute teacher in the Elementary School at the rate of \$160 per day retroactive to Thursday, September 14, 2023
- Jonathan Barsotti as an Elementary Building Substitute teacher, pending receipt of required documents, effective September 20, 2023 until on or about January 12, 2024, at the rate of \$150.00 per day
- Alphonsa Amalanayagam as a Biology Long Term Substitute teacher in the High School, effective retroactive to September 12, 2023, at the rate of \$160.00 per day
- Cassandra Bahrychuck as the Administrative Assistant for Student Center/Attendance/Dean in the High School at the salary of \$30,500, prorated, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year. This is due to a resignation.
- Meghan Schneider as a High School Building Substitute teacher, effective retroactive to September 12, 2023, at the rate of \$150.00 per day

- Anitha Varaganti as a Food Service employee in the Middle School, effective date pending release from her current position as a Student Monitor, at the probationary rate of \$12.61 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$15.76 per hour.
- Myriam Lester, as a Food Service employee in the High School, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, at the probationary rate of \$12.61 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$15.76 per hour.
- Veronica Martinez Vazquez, as a Food Service employee in the High School, pending receipt of documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, at the probationary rate of \$12.61 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$15.76 per hour.
- Ali Jummana, as a Student Monitor in the Intermediate School, effective September 20, 2023, at the probationary rate of \$12.22 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$15.27 per hour.
- Caitlin Hutter as a Personal Care Paraeducator in the Elementary School, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, at the probationary rate of \$17.57 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$21.96 per hour. This is due to an internal move.
- Kirthika Ramadas as a Food Service employee in the High School, effective date pending release from her current position as a Student Monitor, at the probationary rate of \$12.61 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$15.76 per hour.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the following (call as needed) substitute teachers and support personnel for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Lara Bizzack, Elementary K-6/Mid-Level Math 6-9, pending receipt of required documents
- Lauren McAndrew, SmartStart Program, pending receipt of required documents
- Jennifer Ring, Nurse, pending receipt of required documents
- Catherine Reon, Nurse, pending receipt of required documents
- Margaret Mignogna, Nurse, retroactive to August 31, 2023
- Amanda Evans, SmartStart Program
- Anitha Varaganti, Bus Aide, at the rate of \$8.65 per hour
- Lalita Narra, SmartStart Program, pending receipt of required documents
- Kirthika Ramadas, Bus Aide, at the prevailing rate of \$21.32 per hour

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the resignation of Caroline Downey as a mentor teacher for Sara Anderson, Grade 2 Permanent Substitute teacher effective retroactive to September 13, 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of following EPRs for the 2023-2024 school year:

Mentor Teacher for Sara Anderson (effective retroactive to September 13)	Rebecca Colangelo
Extra-curricular Personal Care Paraeducator – High School Homecoming Football Game (effective retroactive to September 15)	Angela Vogel
Nurse - High School Homecoming Dance (effective retroactive to September 16)	Misty Menarcheck

Extra-curricular Personal Care Paraeducators - High School Homecoming Dance (effective retroactive to September 16)	Leslie Willetts Leann Luck
Extra-curricular Personal Care Paraeducator – High School Chorus (duration of 2023-24 school year)	Angela Vogel
Extra-curricular Personal Care Paraeducator – High School Fall Showcase (Fall 2023)	Angela Vogel
Extra-curricular Personal Care Paraeducator – High School Chorus (duration of 2023-24 school year)	Christine Magdich
Extra-curricular Personal Care Paraeducator – High School Best Buddies (duration of 2023-24 school year)	Christine Magdich

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services Dr. Rachel Andler for Board approval of the status change of Alaina Seifert from a Classroom Paraeducator to a Personal Care Paraeducator, effective retroactive to September 12, 2023, at the probationary rate of \$17.57 per hour. After completion of a successful probationary period, the rate will be \$21.96 per hour.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval of Director of Finance Brian Tony as the School Board Treasurer effective October 1, 2023, at the annual stipend of \$1,500.00, prorated.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent for Board approval of the salary adjustment for Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler effective retroactive to July 1, 2023, for the 2023-2024 school year.

And for Board approval of the salary adjustment for Superintendent Dr. Michelle Miller effective retroactive to July 1, 2023, for the 2023-2024 school year.

And on the recommendation the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler for Board approval to hire the following as after school tutors for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Jacqueline Mannina, High School Keystone Literature Tutor
- Mike Perrott, Middle School PSSA Tutoring Coordinator
- Melissa Gielata, Middle School ELA PSSA Tutor
- Kathleen Fischer, Middle School ELA PSSA Tutor
- Lexi Revi, Middle School Math PSSA Tutor
- Sarah Sweet, Intermediate School PSSA Tutoring Coordinator
- Shane Coyne, Intermediate School Math PSSA Tutor
- Patricia Cortese, Intermediate School Math PSSA Tutor
- Morgan Ziolkowski, Intermediate School ELA PSSA Tutor
- Courtney Chiurazzi, Intermediate School ELA PSSA Tutor
- Jessica Kent, Middle School Math PSSA Tutor
- Rocky Violi, Intermediate School Math PSSA Tutor

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the leave of absence request for Bilquees Mandozi Gulam, Student Monitor in the Elementary School, effective retroactive to August 31, 2023 through September 14, 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the intermittent FMLA leave of absence request for Colleen Martinez, Food Service employee in the Middle School, effective retroactive to September 1, 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of Abigail Hill, a student at Duquesne University, to observe music classes in the Intermediate School on Friday, September 22, 2023 and Friday, September 29, 2023. There will be no cost to the District.

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And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the leave of absence request for Cara Snyder, Guidance Counselor in the Elementary School effective on or about December 21, 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the leave of absence request for Laura Nagel, Special Education teacher in the Middle School effective on or about December 31, 2023.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Varsity Cheerleading Coach Maggie Conosciuto for Board approval of Christine Stille as an Assistant Cheerleading Coach, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval of the intermittent FMLA leave of absence request for Nancy Iannerelli, Personal Care Paraeducator in the Middle School with an effective date to be determined.

Voice Vote – All Yes

New motions from the September 26, 2023 Executive Session:

1. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of the EPRs for the 2023-2024 school year. *(information provided)*
2. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent recommend Board approval to hire the following after school tutors for the 2023-2024 school year:
 - Intermediate School Math PSSA Tutor
 - Intermediate School ELA PSSA Tutor
 - High School Biology Keystone Tutor
 - High School Algebra Keystone Tutor
 - High School Algebra Keystone Tutor
 - **Intermediate School Math PSSA Tutor**
3. The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of (call as needed) substitute support personnel for the 2023-2024 school year.
4. **The Superintendent and Elementary School Principals recommend Board approval of the resignation of a mentor teacher for a Grade 1 Permanent Substitute teacher, effective retroactive to September 25, 2023.**
5. **The Superintendent and Elementary School Principals recommend Board approval of a mentor teacher for a Grade 1 Permanent Substitute teacher, effective September 26, 2023.**
6. **The Superintendent and Director of Transportation recommend Board approval of the resignation of a bus driver, effective on or about October 6, 2023.**
7. **The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval of the FMLA leave of absence request for a Biology teacher in the High School, effective retroactive to September 11, 2023.**
8. **The Superintendent and Administrators recommend Board approval to hire an Intermediate School Building Substitute teacher effective retroactive to September 21, 2023.**

9. **The Superintendent and Facilities Director recommend Board approval to hire a custodian, pending receipt of required documents, effective for the 2023-2024 school year.**
10. **The Superintendent, Director of Technology, and Director of Finance/HR recommend Board approval to hire a Technology Assistant (12 month position) with an effective date to be determined.**

IV. EDUCATION

At the Committee Meeting on September 19, 2023, the Board of School Directors acted on the following three items:

Burroughs seconded Brinsky on the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Assistant Principal Robert Butts for Board approval for Band Director Eryn Carranza, Choral Director Christine Elek, and Orchestra Director Cloe Hall to travel with the Music Department (band, choir, and orchestra) to New Orleans, Louisiana from Thursday, April 11, 2024 through Sunday, April 14, 2024 for the annual Music Department 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.

And for Board approval for the Superintendent to attend the U.S. Department of Education's Conference on Equity in Opportunity, in Denver, Colorado from Wednesday, October 25, 2023 through Thursday, October 26, 2023. All costs will be paid for through the Grable Foundation.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Middle School Principals for Board approval to permit Jessica Horzempa, Middle School Music teacher to attend Ableton Educator's Day for K-12 music educators at Youngstown State University on Wednesday, September 27, 2023. The cost of the conference includes registration, mileage and a substitute teacher and is included in the 2023-2024 budget.

Voice Vote – All Yes

1. The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kristin Deichler, and Middle School Principal Dr. Erin Crimone recommend Board approval to dispose of the attached list of textbooks in the Middle School as per Board Policy 706.1. The District will attempt to resell the textbooks, if not, they will be donated.
2. The Superintendent and Intermediate School Principal Tom Kaminski recommend Board approval to permit Charlotte Rudolph, Intermediate School Music teacher to attend the 2023 Professional Development Conference sponsored by American Orff-Schulwerk Association (AOSA) in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from Wednesday, November 1, 2023 through Saturday, November 4, 2023. The cost of the conference includes registration, travel, lodging, meals, and a substitute teacher for 3 days and is included in the 2023-2024 budget.
3. The Superintendent and High School Assistant Principal Robert Butts recommend Board approval to permit Dr. Felix Yerace, High School Social Studies teacher to attend the 2023 LEAD Conference sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), in Arlington, Virginia from Friday, November 10, 2023 through Sunday, November 12, 2023. The cost of the conference includes registration, travel, lodging, meals and one substitute teacher for one day and is included in the 2023-2024 budget.

4. The Superintendent and High School Assistant Principal Robert Butts recommend Board approval to permit Dr. Felix Yerace, High School Social Studies teacher to attend the 2023 National Conference on Student Activities sponsored by the National Association of State Student Council Executive Directors (NASSCED) in San Francisco, California from Friday, December 1, 2023 through Sunday, December 3, 2023. The cost of the conference includes registration, travel, lodging, meals and one substitute teacher for one day and is included in the 2023-2024 budget.
5. The Superintendent recommends Board approval to permit Dr. Chuck Herring, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Dr. Payal Mital, High School Biology teacher to attend the National Association of Independent Schools 2023 People of Color Conference in St. Louis, Missouri from Wednesday, November 29, 2023 through Saturday, December 2, 2023. The cost of the conference includes registration, travel, lodging, and meals are included in the 2023-2024 budget. The cost to the District will be for one substitute teacher for three days. There is a \$100 discount per person if registration is completed by October 31, 2023.

V. TRANSPORTATION

1. The Superintendent and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie recommend Board approval of the bus stops and routes for the 2023-2024 school year. For audit purposes, the records will be kept in the transportation office.
2. The Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Director of Transportation Brandon Soubie recommend Board approval of A.J. Myers and Sons, Inc. as an approved contractor to transport South Fayette students, effective September 27, 2023. The costs are included in the 2023-2024 budget.

VI. ATHLETICS

1. There are no items to discuss.

VII. CONSTRUCTION

1. There are no additional items to discuss.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

1. There are no items to discuss.

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

The Board will hear comments from residents and/or taxpayers. The time limit of comments will not exceed three (3) minutes. The Board will not respond to questions during this session, but will only hear public comment. (As per revised Policy 006 – “Meetings” adopted April 26, 2022)

Solicitor's Report

Board Comments

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BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee Report	President Len Fornella
B. South Fayette Foundation	Paul Brinsky
C. PSBA/Legislative Committee Report	Lena Hannah
D. Parkway West	Tom Iagnemma
E. SHASDA	Joe Welch

Suspend

An Executive Session may be held to discuss personnel and/or legal issues.