

January 9, 2017
Combined Agenda Study Session and Regular Business Meeting

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL — The Board of School Directors of the Fox Chapel Area School District held its combined agenda study session and regular business meeting at Fox Chapel Area High School January 9, 2017. President Terry L. Wirginis called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Also in attendance were Vice President Nancy B. Foster; Treasurer Joel R. Weinstein; Robert Mauro; Somer Obernauer Jr.; Eric C. Schmidt; and Dharmesh Vyas, M.D., Ph.D.

GUESTS

•**Peter J. Vancheri**, CPA, Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood LLP, presented the district financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016.

Certificate of Merit — The Board presented a certificate of merit to the following student:

•Fox Chapel Area High School senior **Reilly O'Donnell** recently organized a clothing and school supply drive for the victims of Hurricane Matthew. Reilly collected several boxes that were shipped to the residents of Lumberton, North Carolina, at the end of November. Lumberton is a community that was devastated by Hurricane Matthew in October. Students, staff members, and the public donated to the drive she coordinated.

Reilly has family in Florida who had to evacuate their home due to the hurricane. Fortunately, her family did not sustain any damage to their home. "I was grateful they were safe," said Reilly, "however, it made me think of all of those who lost so much."

•**School Director Recognition Month** – O'Hara Elementary School Students

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Enrollment and Fire Drills — The Board received the enrollment and fire drills report.

Information

•**Students Place in Lake Erie Forensic Tournament**

Eight Fox Chapel Area High School students placed at the annual M & M Lake Erie Invitational Forensic Tournament. The team of senior **Jonathan Monroe** and junior **Sara Puthenpurayil** won second place in Policy Debate, the team of seniors **Darwin Leuba** and **Mihir Garimella** won third place in Policy Debate, senior **Joshua Cagan** won fifth place in Impromptu Speaking, freshman **Gavin Hitchens** won fifth place in Lincoln Douglas Debate, and the team of freshmen **Jackson Boychuk** and **J. Oliver Choo** won sixth place in Public Forum Debate. Additionally, Fox Chapel Area's team of debaters won second place in the team sweepstakes and with all the speakers scores combined (speech and debate), the team won second place overall in the team sweepstakes.

The tournament, sponsored by Mercyhurst and McDowell high schools in Erie, Pennsylvania, was held November 5, 2016, at Penn State Behrend. Approximately 160 students from 16 schools participated in the event.

•**High School Students Place at Pitt Model UN Conference**

Several Fox Chapel Area High School students placed at the 20th Annual University of Pittsburgh Model UN Conference. The team of seniors **Jonathan Monroe** and **Clare O'Connor** won first place in the United Nations Development Programme and they also won first place for their position paper in the writing category. The team of freshmen **Rajeev Godse** and **Felix Vesper** won first place in the Organization for Islamic Cooperation.

In the Large Delegation category, the team of seniors **Mihir Garimella**, **Darwin Leuba**, **Suvir Mirchandani**, **Jonathan Monroe**, and **Clare O'Connor**; juniors **Karissa Becer**, **Emelyn Broniek**, **Albert Liu**, **Andreas Paljug**, **Sara Puthenpurayil**, and **Tao Sheng**; and sophomore **Tristan McClelland** won second place.

Approximately 450 students from 24 schools from Western Pennsylvania participated in the University of Pittsburgh Model UN Conference. The conference was held November 7, 2016, at the University of Pittsburgh.

The purpose of the Model UN conference is to enable students to role play and simulate the countries in the United Nations. As a part of the conference, students debate and try to solve global problems from the perspectives of other countries.

•Sophomores Selected to Participate in HOBY Leadership Seminar

Two Fox Chapel Area High School sophomores have been selected to receive the distinguished Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) award. **Courtney Kennedy** and **Ryan Setzenfand** have been chosen to attend the Pennsylvania HOBY Leadership Seminar June 9-11, 2017. The three-day HOBY Seminar will be held at Washington & Jefferson College. Along with other outstanding sophomores from throughout the state, these students will participate in seminars to help them enhance their critical thinking skills and leadership skills and help them develop goal-setting skills and realize the importance of leadership.

Founded in 1958, HOBY’s mission is to inspire and develop a global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service, and innovation. HOBY programs allow youth selected by their schools to participate in unique leadership training, service-learning, and motivation-building experiences.

•Fall Athletes Named All-State

Eight Fox Chapel Area High School student athletes have been named to their respective all-state teams. The students selected are seniors **Anthony Cordaro** – boys’ golf, **Deena DeBaldo** – girls’ soccer, **Alex Lawson** – boys’ golf, and **Dixon Veltri** – girls’ soccer; juniors **Amanda Nord** – girls’ tennis, **Abby Pitcairn** – field hockey, and **Paige Ryan** – field hockey; and freshman **Charlotte James** – girls’ tennis. All-state team selection is the state’s highest honor in interscholastic sports.

•Soccer Players Named to All-Section Teams

Several members of the Fox Chapel Area High School boys’ and girls’ soccer teams were named to their respective all-section teams. Seniors **Deena DeBaldo**, **Madeline Lucey**, and **Dixon Veltri**; juniors **Margaret Lazzara** and **Katie Livingston**; and sophomores **Kate Feczko** and **Sarah Sinnott** were named to the WPIAL Class 4A Section 3 girls’ all-section team. Seniors **Michael Snowball** and **Nathan Wecht**, junior **William Tabor**, and freshman **Zane Ingram** were named to the WPIAL Class 4A Section 3 boys’ all-section team.

•Soccer Players Named to Post-Gazette All-Area Team

Two Fox Chapel Area High School seniors were named to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette All-Area Girls’ Soccer Team. The students are **Deena DeBaldo** and **Dixon Veltri**. The students were two of only 11 students named to the team and they were featured in the December 9, 2016, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Varsity Xtra.

•Fox Chapel Area School Board Upcoming Meetings

- February 6, 2017 – 7 p.m. – Agenda Study Session – Hartwood Elementary School Library
- February 13, 2017 – 7 p.m. – Regular Business Meeting – Fox Chapel Area High School LGI Room
- March 6, 2017 – 7 p.m. – Agenda Study Session – Fairview Elementary School Multipurpose Room
- March 13, 2017 – 7 p.m. – Regular Business Meeting – Fox Chapel Area High School LGI Room
- April 3, 2017 – 7 p.m. – Combined Agenda Study Session & Regular Business Meeting – HS LGI Room
- May 1, 2017 – 7 p.m. – Agenda Study Session – Dorseyville Middle School Auditorium
- May 8, 2017 – 7 p.m. – Regular Business Meeting – Fox Chapel Area High School LGI Room
- June 5, 2017 – 7 p.m. – Agenda Study Session – O’Hara Elementary School Auditorium
- June 12, 2017 – 7 p.m. – Regular Business Meeting – Fox Chapel Area High School LGI Room

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Approved the minutes of the combined agenda study session and regular business meeting and reorganization meeting dated December 5, 2016.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NEW BUSINESS — The superintendent recommended that action be taken on the following items of business:

Finance

Disbursements (A) — General fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$8,165,254.07 from December 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016, were approved.

Disbursements (B) — GO Bond Series 2013 Construction Fund disbursements (Fund 33) in the amount of \$377,789.42 for December 2016 were approved.

Finance Report — The finance report for November 2016 was acknowledged and filed for audit.

Budget Transfers — Several budget transfers for 2016-2017 were approved.

2015-2016 Audit Report — The audit report submitted by Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood LLP for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, was approved.

FCASD Election Not to Increase Tax Rate Above the Index – Resolution 2017-1 — The Fox Chapel Area School District resolution 2017-1 electing not to increase the tax rate above the index in the 2017-2018 General Operating Budget was approved.

District Auditor Appointment — Approved a three-year engagement with Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood LLP for the audit of the Fox Chapel Area School District financial statements for fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, 2018, and 2019, at a cost of \$17,400; \$17,800; and \$18,200, respectively.

Legislation/Policy

Policy – New — Approved the following new policy:

- No. 255 – Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care.

Policies – Revised — Approved the following revised policies:

- No. 007 – Policy Manual Access and
- No. 251 – Homeless Students.

Personnel

Candidates for employment under this section were approved subject to verification of the results of physical and drug screening examinations, required clearances, and all other essential employment requirements under Policy and Administrative Regulations 304-AR and 304-AR-4.

Resignations

Leave Replacement — Accepted the following leave replacement resignation:

- **Sara R. Saeler**, speech and language leave replacement at O’Hara Elementary School, due to personal reasons, effective January 19, 2017.

Supplemental Contracts – Athletic — Accepted the following supplemental contract resignations:

- **Matthew J. Derby**, intramurals activity sponsor at Dorseyville Middle School, due to personal reasons, effective August 22, 2016.
- **David A. Neely**, boys’ middle school head volleyball coach, due to personal reasons, effective December 14, 2016.

Leave

Professional — Approved the following professional leave:

- **Erin E. Wetherill**, literacy teacher at Dorseyville Middle School, for child-rearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective February 3, 2017, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2017-2018 school term.

Appointments

Administrations — Approved the following administrative appointment:

- **G. Daniel DiDesiderio III** as director of student achievement and instructional verification, with an effective date to be determined. This is a new position.

Professional — Ratified the following professional appointment:

- **Katelyn A. Werner** as an elementary teacher at O’Hara Elementary School, effective August 26, 2016. This position is available due to increased enrollment.

Nutrition Center — Ratified the following nutrition center appointment:

- **Carrie L. McCully** as a permanent, part-time (three-hours per day) nutrition center employee in the Fox Chapel Area High School cafeteria. Hourly salary was set with no fringe benefits, effective October 17, 2016. This position is available due to the resignation of **Mary Lou Inesso**.

Supplemental Contracts – Athletic — The following athletic supplemental contracts were approved/ratified for the 2016-2017 school term: **Esther E. Hull** – Intramural Activities Sponsor (50%) – MS and **Cara E. Reese** – Girls’ Volleyball Head Coach – MS.

Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic — The following non-athletic supplemental contracts were approved/ratified for the 2016-2017 school term: **Deborah S. Burnett** – Mentor Teacher – O’Hara and **Debra J. Fetterman** – Mentor Teacher – O’Hara.

Volunteer – Athletic — Ratified the following athletic volunteer, effective November 18, 2016:

- **Matthew Mauclair** – Boys’ and Girls’ Varsity Swimming.

Leave Replacements

Professional — Ratified/ Approved the following professional leave replacements:

- **Nicole E. Gruden** as a leave replacement elementary teacher at O’Hara Elementary School, effective December 9, 2016-day after the last day for students for the 2016-2017 school term.
- **Jacqueline O. Lewis** as a second-semester leave replacement gifted education teacher at Fairview Elementary School, effective January 20, 2017-day after the last day for students for the 2016-2017 school term.

Changes of Status

Leave Replacements — Approved the following leave replacement changes of status:

- **Lisa M. Reppy**, first-semester leave replacement elementary teacher at Kerr Elementary School, for an extension of the leave replacement position through the day after the last day of school for students for the 2016-2017 school term. This position is available due to the resignation of **Jacqueline Bell**.
- **Leah M. Jacobs**, first-semester leave replacement elementary teacher at O’Hara Elementary School, for an extension of the leave replacement position through the day after the last day of school for students for the 2016-2017 school term. This position is available due to the educational sabbatical of **Sherrie Reuter**.

Educational Support — Approved the following change of status:

- **Elizabeth M. Dessell**, currently administration/business office secretary for Fox Chapel Area School District, as executive assistant to the business manager, with effective date to be determined. Salary and benefits will be as per the Fox Chapel Area School District Confidential Employees Fringe Benefits, Compensation, and Performance Appraisal Program.

Extra Innings

Teachers — The following employees were ratified as Extra Innings teachers for the 2016-2017 school term at an hourly rate with a maximum of 60 hours of planning/instruction:

- **Fairview Elementary School – Jacqueline Lewis, Nicole McCaffrey, and Angela Wilhelm;**
- **Hartwood Elementary School – Lynn DePellegrini, Kathy Frederick, Maria Stewart, and Audrey Marie Masci;**
- **Kerr Elementary School – Heath Asbury, Sean Baldis, Terri Kedzierski, and Melanie Tunney;** and
- **O’Hara Elementary School – Nicole Gruden, Leah Jacobs, Lauren Sirianna, and Katy Werner.**

Instructional Assistants — The following employees were ratified as Extra Innings instructional assistants for the 2016-2017 school term at an hourly rate with a maximum of 60 hours of planning/instruction:

- **Hartwood Elementary School – Kimberly Brose and Patty Letters** and
- **Kerr Elementary School – Connie Banachoski.**

Operations/Cooperative Services

Plancon Part I – Interim Reporting – Resolution 2017-2 – Fox Chapel Area High School Construction Project — Approved Resolution 2017-2 authorizing the submission of Plancon Part I to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the high school construction project.

Change Orders – Dorseyville Middle School Alterations Project — Approved change orders HC-001, GC-001, and GC-002 at a total cost of \$8,708.13 for the middle school alterations project pending PDE approval of Plancon Part I. These change orders were reviewed and approved by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority Board.

Permission to Advertise – Dorseyville Middle School Site Alterations Project — Authorized the advertisement of bids for the Dorseyville Middle School site alterations project.

AIA Agreement – Thomas & Williamson, LLC – O’Hara Elementary and Fairview Elementary Alterations Projects — Approved the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Thomas & Williamson, LLC for construction management services related to the O’Hara Elementary and Fairview Elementary alterations projects.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT — The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

The Fox Chapel Area School District is an equal rights and opportunity school district. The school district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, or handicap/disability. The district shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and mental impairments that constitute disabilities, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations.

Additional information pertaining to civil rights, school district policies, and grievance procedures can be obtained by contacting the compliance officers listed below between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. This notice is available from the compliance officers in large print, on audiotape, and in Braille.

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| Title IX: | David P. McCommons, Ed.D. (412/967-2456) |
| Section 504 and ADA: | Lonnie Carey, Ed.D. (412/967-2435) |
| Address: | Fox Chapel Area School District, 611 Field Club Road, Pgh., PA 15238 |