

March 13, 2017

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL — The Board of School Directors of the Fox Chapel Area School District held its regular business meeting at Fox Chapel Area High School March 13, 2017. President Terry L. Wirginis called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Also in attendance were Vice President Nancy B. Foster, Assistant Secretary Sandra M Garbisch (via telephone), Robert Mauro, Somer Obernauer Jr., Lisa M. Rutkowski, and Eric C. Schmidt.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

Information

•High School Choir Chosen to Perform at State Festival

The Fox Chapel Area High School Madrigal Singers have been selected to perform at the 2017 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) Annual Conference. The group will perform April 21 in Erie, Pennsylvania. The PMEA selected the Madrigal Singers from approximately 140 other performance ensembles who submitted audition recordings.

The Madrigal Singers includes 40 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students and the choir is under the direction of teacher **Benjamin Murray**.

•Students Named 2017 National Merit Finalists

Thirteen Fox Chapel Area High School seniors have been designated as National Merit Finalists in the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). The Finalists from Fox Chapel Area High School are **Rohan Chalasani, Mihir Garimella, David Han, Elizabeth Heidenreich, Darwin Leuba, William "Tim" Marsh, Tanvi Meringenti, Suvir Mirchandani, Grace Mueller, Hannah Mueller, Mary Clare O'Connor, Ellen Pil, and Kai Shaikh.**

These Fox Chapel Area High School students were named Semifinalists in September 2016 and have met all the requirements to advance to Finalist standing in the competition for Merit Scholarship awards which will be announced this spring. The students are selected as Finalists based on their Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) scores and other factors, including SAT scores, a student essay, a school recommendation, and having an outstanding academic record throughout high school.

Each year college-bound 11th grade students complete the PSAT/NMSQT. All the students who take this test are automatically enrolled in the National Merit Scholarship Program and approximately 15,000 advance to become Finalists. The Finalists represent less than one percent of the nation's high school seniors and compete for some 7,500 Merit Scholarships worth about \$33 million to be offered in the spring of 2017.

The NMSC is a privately financed, not-for-profit corporation.

•Students Win Regional 2017 Scholastic Art Awards

Several Fox Chapel Area School District students recently won awards for their entries in the Pittsburgh Arts Region of The Scholastic Art Awards of 2017. The show was held February 4-19 at La Roche College and entries were received from students from schools across the region.

The Fox Chapel Area Silver Key winners were seniors **Phoebe Beard** (two Silver Keys), **Roy Gao** (two Silver Keys), **Elaina Graca** (four Silver Keys), **Haley Herrmann, Alexis Hurwitz, Amanda Hurwitz** (four Silver Keys), **Emmeline Klatt, Sada Lantgios** (two Silver Keys), **Ryan Moore, Molly Mozurak, Mary Clare O'Connor, Riley Perchinsky, Avalon Perdriel-Arons, Cole Rosenbloom, Krista Spuhler, Amanda Trusiak** (two Silver Keys), **Bryanna Urso, Brenda Vernon** (two Silver Keys), and **Ailuo Zhang** (three Silver Keys); juniors **Harley Beckey, Isabela Berg, Amanda Bozic, Sally Dean, Kathleen Dunn** (two Silver Keys), **Madelyn Flanagan** (two Silver Keys), **Grace Katz, Elizabeth Kauma** (two Silver Keys), **Katherine Kauma** (four Silver Keys), **Julia Kisslinger** (two Silver Keys), and **Kathryn Way**; sophomores **Paige Johnson, Sofia Porter Bacon** (two Silver Keys), **Demi Rymer, Katherine Teele, and Noora Tuominen**; and freshmen **Emma Fuhrer, Nicole Lazaro, Nicolas Perico, and Grace Sisson**. Additionally, Bryanna Urso won a Silver Key for her portfolio.

Several students from Fox Chapel Area High School and one student from Dorseyville Middle School received Honorable Mentions for their entries. They are seniors Phoebe Beard (two Honorable Mentions), **Emma Cassidy, Casey Dillon, Kira Galanter, Megan Hughes**, Amanda Hurwitz, **Kathryn Kenney**, Emmeline Klatt, Sada Lantgios, **Solana Morningstar** (four Honorable Mentions), Mary Clare O'Connor, Avalon Perdriel-Arons, Krista Spuhler, Amanda Trusiak (two Honorable Mentions), Bryanna Urso (two Honorable Mentions), Brenda Vernon (two Honorable Mentions), and Ailuo Zhang; juniors Amanda Bozic, **Taylor Collins**, Kathleen Dunn, Madelyn Flanagan (two Honorable Mentions), Elizabeth Kauma (three Honorable Mentions), Julia Kisslinger, **Sarah Sheerer** (three Honorable Mentions), and Kathryn Way; sophomores **Lauren Copeland, Diana Crookston, Katherine Eames** (two Honorable Mentions), Paige Johnson, **Noah Manges, Elizabeth Mautino, Margaux Miller, Greg Overbeck, Maya Rice**, Demi Rymer (two Honorable Mentions), **Madeline Richards**, and **Richard Strawn**; freshmen **Jon DeLuca, Leda Perdriel-Arons, and Lauren Sabol**; and eighth grader **Jessica McCann**.

The regional award winners were selected by a panel of distinguished judges which included artists, art educators, and art professionals. All of these Fox Chapel Area students were honored at a special closing celebration February 19 at La Roche College.

The Fox Chapel Area High School art teachers are **Ron Frank, Joan Marangoni, Jody Shell, Christine Smith, Sarah Stewart**, and **Amy Wickman**. The Dorseyville Middle School students are taught by **Cheryl Etters, Nanci Goldberg**, and **Mary Jo Montgomery**.

•DMS Student Wins Regional Scholastic Writing Award

Dorseyville Middle School seventh grader **Zoe Lakkis** won an Honorable Mention award in the 2017 Pittsburgh Regional Scholastic Writing Awards competition.

More than 350 entries, spanning 10 different genres of writing, were received from students from across the greater Pittsburgh area. The students' writing was judged by veteran writing teachers, professional writers, and university faculty.

All of the students received their awards at the Regional Writing Awards Ceremony February 25 in the Frick Fine Arts Auditorium at the University of Pittsburgh. The local competition was sponsored by the Western Pennsylvania Writing Project. The Project is a non-profit, teacher-centered, teacher-led professional development program serving area schools and students for more than 30 years. It is hosted by the University of Pittsburgh's School of Education and is a long-standing affiliate of the National Writing Project. The group partners with schools and community organizations in its efforts to strengthen academic and public literacy.

•Students Place at West Allegheny Forensic Tournament

Six Fox Chapel Area High School students recently placed at the West Allegheny High School Invitational Forensic Tournament. Senior **Jeremy Rodrigues** won second place in Commentary. Senior **Jonathan Monroe** and junior **Sara Puthenpurayil** won third place in Policy Debate. Sophomore **Jonah Green** won fifth place in Student Congress. Freshman **Rajeev Godse** won fifth place in Lincoln Douglas Debate. Senior **Madeleine Doerr** won sixth place in Persuasive Oratory.

The tournament was held February 18, 2017, at West Allegheny High School. Approximately 350 students from 28 high schools from across Western Pennsylvania participated in the tournament.

•Students Place at Knoch Forensic Tournament

Two Fox Chapel Area High School students recently placed at the Knoch Knights Groundhog Day Joust Forensic Tournament. Sophomore **Jonah Green** won third place Merit Speaker in his legislative house and freshman **Jackson Boychuk** was recognized as fifth place Merit Speaker in his legislative house.

The Knoch Forensic Tournament was held February 4, 2017, at Knoch High School. Approximately 320 students from 25 high schools from throughout Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia competed at the event.

•High School Students Place at Duquesne University Model UN Conference

Two Fox Chapel Area High School students recently placed at the Duquesne University Model United Nations (UN) Conference. Seniors **Jonathan Monroe** and **Clare O'Connor** were recognized as the "Excellent Delegation" representing Japan in the United Nations Environment Programme. This award is equivalent to second place.

The conference was held January 27, 2017, at Duquesne University and approximately 360 students from 20 high schools in the regional area attended the event.

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

• Fox Chapel Area School Board Upcoming Meetings

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 regular business meeting dated February 13, 2017.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Facilities/Transportation

JML Landscape Management – Agreement — Ratified the agreement with JML Landscape Management in the amount of \$144,680.00 per year for the period January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2018.

Finance

Disbursements (A) — General fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$6,166,252.49 from February 1, 2017, through February 28, 2017, were approved.

Disbursements (B) — GO Bond Series 2013 Construction Fund disbursements (Fund 33) in the amount of \$937,834.76 for February 2017 were approved.

Finance Report — The finance report for January 2017 was acknowledged and filed for audit.

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

Professional Software for Nurses, Inc. (PSNI) – Service Level Agreement — Approved the service-level agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Professional Software for Nurses, Inc. for software maintenance for the 2017-2018 school year, at a cost of \$2,874.00.

2017-2018 Allegheny Intermediate Unit Program of Services Budget — Upon the recommendation of the administration, the Board approved the proposed 2017-2018 Allegheny Intermediate Unit Program of Services Budget in the amount of \$2,034,004.00. The Allegheny County (AIU3) school districts’ total contribution to the budget is \$1,835,198.00. The Fox Chapel Area School District contribution to the Program of Services Budget is estimated to be \$102,014.00 and will be determined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education according to the District Aid Ratio and Weighted Average Daily Membership (WADM).

Instruction

2017-2018 School District Calendar — Approved the 2017-2018 school district calendar. The calendar is available on the district’s website at www.fcasd.edu.

Platinum Educational Consulting LLC – Agreement — Approved the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Platinum Educational Consulting LLC for the 2016-2017 school year not to exceed 10 days, and for the 2017-2018 school year not to exceed 30 days, at a cost of \$750.00 per diem.

Course Changes — Approved the following secondary program course changes for Fox Chapel Area High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year: Math – Elements III to Elements II and Math – Elements II to Math Lab.

Course Additions — Approved the following secondary program course additions for Fox Chapel Area High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year: Business – Business Practicum, Math – Data Structures and Algorithms, and Science – Elements of Biology.

Course Deletion — Approved the following secondary program course deletion for Fox Chapel Area High School, effective for the 2017-2018 school year: English – Elements III.

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

Custodial/Maintenance — Accepted the following custodial/maintenance resignation:

- **Patrick J. Fitzgerald**, custodial/maintenance supervisor for Fox Chapel Area School District, due to personal reasons, effective March 20, 2017.

Educational Support — Accepted the following instructional assistant resignation:

- **Jennifer C. Slezak**, instructional assistant at Dorseyville Middle School, due to personal reasons, effective March 13, 2017.

Nutrition Center — Accepted the following nutrition center resignation:

- **Patricia A. Nolder**, nutrition center manager at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to retirement, effective May 8, 2017.

Supplemental Contract – Non-Athletic — Accepted the following non-athletic supplemental contract resignation:

- **Andrew J. Richards**, world language department head at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to personal reasons, effective February 17, 2017.

Leaves

Professional — Approved the following professional leaves:

- **Caryn A. Campbell**, special education teacher at Dorseyville Middle School, for child-rearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective April 29, 2017, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2017-2018 school term.
- **Marguerite A. Kistler**, reading specialist at Kerr Elementary School, for a first-semester educational sabbatical, effective the first day of the 2017-2018 school term, with return scheduled for the first day of the second semester of the 2017-2018 school term.
- **Jessica L. Resek**, elementary teacher at O'Hara Elementary School, for a one-year educational sabbatical, effective the first day of the 2017-2018 school term, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2018-2019 school term.

Appointments

Educational Support — Ratified the following educational support appointments:

- **Carol K. Obernauer** as business office/communications secretary for the Fox Chapel Area School District, effective February 22, 2017. Hourly salary was set based on the salary scale for 12-month secretaries, Step 3, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the transfer of **Elizabeth Dessell**.
- **Robin L. McAnulty** as the nutrition center/ancillary services secretary for the Fox Chapel Area School District, effective February 24, 2017. Hourly salary was set based on the salary scale for 12-month secretaries, Step 3, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the resignation of **Marie Dennis**.

Custodial/Maintenance — Ratified the following custodial appointment:

- **Thomas L. Gent** as a 10-month, 8-hour/day custodian for the Fox Chapel Area School District, effective February 20, 2017. Salary and benefits were set as per the Service Employees International Union Local 32BJ Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the retirement of **Phyllis Szafranski**.

Supplemental Contract – Athletics — The following athletic supplemental contract was ratified for the 2016-2017 school term: **Aaron Gofreed** – Boys' Lacrosse Assistant Coach – HS.

Supplemental Contract – Non-Athletic — The following non-athletic supplemental contract was ratified for the 2016-2017 school term: **Kathryn L. Mueller** – Mentor Teacher – O’Hara.

Change in Status

Administration — Approved the change in status of **David P. McCommons**, Ed.D., from assistant superintendent to deputy superintendent effective immediately.

Operations/Cooperative Services

Change Orders – Fox Chapel Area High School Construction Project — Approved change order 001-GC-021 at a total cost of (\$9,945.21) and change order 03-MC-015 at a total cost of \$9,945.21 for the high school construction project pending PDE approval of Plancon Part I. These change orders were reviewed and approved by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority Board.

Change Order No. 3 to AIA B 132-2009 Agreement – Fox Chapel Area High School Construction Project — Approved change order in the amount of \$90,000.00 thereby amending and finalizing the agreement with Axis Architecture, P.C.

Plancon Part F – Construction Documents – Resolution 2017-6 – O’Hara Elementary School Alterations Project — Approved Resolution 2017-6 authorizing the administration and VEBH Architects to prepare and submit to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for architectural review, all necessary documents to complete Plancon Part F, construction documents for the O’Hara Elementary School alterations project, including the completed construction drawings and specifications to be used for the bidding process.

Kerr Elementary School Project – Architect — Authorized the dissolution of the AIA contract with VEBH Architects as to the Kerr Elementary School alterations project, and authorized the administration to seek a proposal from Canzian/Johnston & Associates for design and architectural services related to the Kerr Elementary School project.

Kerr Elementary School Project – Construction Manager — Authorized the administration to seek a proposal from Thomas & Williamson Program Management for program management and/or construction management services related to the Kerr Elementary School project.

Safety Incentive Program — Approved the Fox Chapel Area School District safety incentive program for district employees at an estimated cost of \$500.00.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT — The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 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.

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