

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

COMBINED AGENDA STUDY SESSION
AND REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

SEPTEMBER 11, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The combined agenda study session and regular business meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fox Chapel Area School District was called to order by President, Terry L. Wirginis, at 7:00 p.m. on September 11, 2017, in the LGI Room at the Fox Chapel Area High School. An executive session was held prior to the meeting for contract issues.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL-CALL

The Board members present at roll call were Messrs. Obernauer, Schmidt, Weinstein, and Wirginis, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Garbisch, and Mrs. Rutkowski. Absent were Mr. Mauro and Dr. Vyas. Also present were Dr. Freeman, Dr. McCommons, Mr. Giuffre, and Mrs. Anuszek. Other members of the public were present.

GUESTS

Dr. Freeman introduced Timothy Mahoney, director of special education and pupil services, who then introduced Scott Vensel.

• Fox Chapel Area School District teacher **Scott Vensel** was selected as an education leader. This summer, Vensel was named to the Pittsburgh-based The Incline's "Who's Next: Education" class featuring 18 young educators under 40 preparing Pittsburgh for the future. According to The Incline website, the list includes "stellar under-40 teachers, administrators and innovators in and around Pittsburgh who are making a difference and changing the education landscape." Vensel is currently an eighth grade English Language Arts teacher at Dorseyville Middle School where he has taught since 2007.

According to an article on The Incline's website, "His nominator praised him for coordinating the school's multimedia Holocaust education assembly and for 'constantly creating innovative and interactive ways to teach his students.'" Vensel is also a football and track coach at Dorseyville Middle School.

"My goal is to help students find a balance between the expectations of the 21st century workforce, while not neglecting the human element of the humanities," Vensel said in the article that appeared online. "Also, teaching eighth graders, I find it important to create an atmosphere of expectations and experiences in the classroom that foster growth of responsibility, self-reliance, and confidence."

Vensel was recognized with the other educators featured on the list July 26, 2017, at Ascender on Penn Avenue in East Liberty.

The Incline's "Who's Next" series highlights some of the most dynamic people under 40 shaping Pittsburgh every day. The goal is to identify and track the next generation of leaders and influencers. The Incline, established in September 2016, is a mobile-first site connecting readers with relevant news about Pittsburgh and driving civic engagement through events. The under-40 leaders in the community series is presented by S&T Bank.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

• **Students and Graduates Named AP Scholars**

A total of 147 current Fox Chapel Area High School students and 2017 graduates have been named Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars by the College Board for demonstrating college-level achievement on

the AP examinations taken in May 2017. Only about 20 percent of the more than two million students who took AP exams in May 2017 performed at a sufficiently high level to earn an AP Scholar Award. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on the number of courses and exams. At Fox Chapel Area High School:

—2017 graduates **Rohan Chalasani, Alec Eckman, Mihir Garimella, Sarah Hamilton, Elizabeth Heidenreich, Yelim Lee, Darwin Leuba, William “Tim” Marsh, Moira McCormick, Suvir Mirchandani, Kristen Rabbitt, Jeremy Rodrigues, Caroline Smith, Philip Swigon, Thomas Swigon, and Nathan Wecht** qualified for the National AP Scholar Award by earning an average score of 4 or higher on all AP exams taken, and scores of four or higher on eight or more AP exams.

—The following 68 graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average score of 3.5 or higher on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams: 2017 graduates **Ariane Akhand, Nathan Andrud, Lee Beasley, David Breault, Joshua Cagan, Rohan Chalasani, Jared Cohen, Brooke Echnat, Alec Eckman, John Feczko, Austin Fisher, Mihir Garimella, James Gilmore, Donovan Gorgas, Sarah Hamilton, David Han, Elizabeth Heidenreich, Nadia Islam, Katherine Kauma, Yelim Lee, Darwin Leuba, Victor Marculescu, William “Tim” Marsh, Moira McCormick, Sean McCoy, Anna McDougall, Alan McIvor, Jenna McKinley, Suvir Mirchandani, Jonathan Monroe, Solana Morningstar, Emma Paulini, Daniel Paviglianiti, Ellen Pil, Kristen Rabbitt, Jeremy Rodrigues, William Schwartzman, Ayan Sinha, Caroline Smith, Philip Swigon, Thomas Swigon, Martin Taxay, Bliss Uribe, Nathan Wecht, Elizabeth Woodwell, Bohan Yao, Gabrielle Young, Jerett Zaleski, and Houruiyang Zong** and 2017-2018 seniors **Karissa Becer, Emelyn Broniek, Alexander Brotsker, Jhair Colan, Alyssa DiPaolo, Margaret Edgecombe, Mia Jamiolkowski, Wonho Kang, Elizabeth Kauma, Shania Khatri, Jacob Klein, Albert Liu, Andreas Paljug, Rebekah Polcyn, Lucy Stone, Jordan Taxay, Bridget Wang, Jorgen Wu, and Tanvi Yende.**

—The following 40 graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams: 2017 graduates **Erik Bothe, Anne Friday, Roy Gao, Alison Gould, Elias Izenon, Maxwell Lucas, Vincent Lundy, John Ramassini, Bryce Ryan, Alexander Smolar, Waleed Tariq, and Ian Tracey** and 2017-2018 seniors **Eduardo Andujar, Sarah Baldwin, Anita Bargaje, Emilia Bianchini, Christopher Bonavita, Emilia Cano-Czagany, Nolan Crocker, Sara Fisher, Anna Hirsch, Khalid Husain, Julia Kisslinger, Braddock Lalor, Elizabeth Mountz, Helen Paulini, Sara Puthenpurayil, Ryan Santilli, John Saunders, Jeffrey Savin, Jessica Schwartz, Sarah Seay, Alexa Selwood, Sarah Sheerer, Tao Sheng, Megan Stafford, Devon Stein, William Tabor, Ruopeng Wang, and Zachary Zytnick.**

—The following 39 graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by receiving scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams: 2017 graduates **Harper Bennett, Anthony Cordaro, Francesco Fava, Lorenzo Fava, Ellin Fetting, Andrew Fugh, Kathryn Kenney, Nicholas Killian, Kevin Kilmer, Emmeline Klatt, Matthew Marino, Maia Pauley, Benjamin Rosen, Omar Tolentino, Alexandra Wessel, and Megan Wiese;** 2017-2018 seniors **David Ahlers, Kieran Bartels, Liam Botos, Nicholas Fennel, Kiran Hughes, William Kuhns, Toby Lazear, Cara Levicoff, Madeline Macek, Julie Mallinger, Adam Mattioli, Victoria Mountz, Rohan Patil, Delaney Roberts, Trisha Shah, David Shtrahman, Claudia Simon, Danielle Werner, and Max Wolfendale;** 2017-2018 juniors **Vaishavi Agrawal and Arnav Gupta;** and 2017-2018 sophomores **J. Oliver Choo and Moulid Muhina.**

Advanced Placement exams are graded on a 5-point scale, with 5 being the highest. Most of the nation’s four-year colleges and universities award credit and/or advanced placement for qualifying exam scores. Every year, AP examinations are offered in a wide variety of subject areas, each consisting of multiple choice and free-response (essay or problem-solving) questions.

• **High School PSAT/NMSQT High Scorers**

Sixteen Fox Chapel Area High School seniors are among the 50,000 highest-scoring participants on the 2016 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) and have met the requirements to enter the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program. The students are: **Emilia Bianchini, Christopher Bonavita, Emelyn Broniek, Theodore Faucher, Nicholas Fennell, Wonho Kang, Shania Khatri, Jacob Klein, Margaret Lazzara, Albert Liu, Adam Mattioli, Elizabeth Mountz, Rebekah Polcyn,**

Lucy Stone, Jordan Taxay, and Jorgen Wu. Approximately 1.5 million students took the 2016 PSAT/NMSQT and these Fox Chapel Area students are among the 50,000 highest-scoring participants on that test from across the nation.

Approximately 16,000 of these highest scoring students will be named National Merit Program Semifinalists in September 2017, representing the top scorers in each state, and approximately 34,000 others will be commended for their performance on the PSAT/NMSQT. The Semifinalists will have the opportunity to continue in the competition for about 7,400 Merit Scholarship awards to be offered in 2018.

• **2017 Graduate Named Winner in Princeton Prize**

A 2017 Fox Chapel Area High School graduate was named a winner in the Princeton Prize in Race Relations awards. Graduate **Yelim Lee** received a Certificate of Accomplishment as part of the contest. The award, sponsored by Princeton University, recognizes students in grades 9-12 from across the nation who deserve to be recognized for their volunteer efforts that have positively impacted race relations in their own schools or communities. Students can be nominated or can apply for the award through an application process and must also have an adult sponsor.

Winners of the Princeton Prize in Race Relations have stood up to intolerance, worked toward greater inclusivity, and encouraged understanding and harmony in their communities. The 122 winners were selected from 27 regions from across the United States.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was no report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Wirginis asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the combined agenda study session and regular business meeting dated August 14, 2017. On motion by Mrs. Garbisch and seconded by Mr. Weinstein, the minutes were approved as submitted, with Mrs. Foster and Mrs. Garbisch abstaining.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments.

NEW BUSINESS

The superintendent is recommending that action be taken on the following items of business:

FACILITIES/TRANSPORTATION

A. Facilities/Transportation

No action is requested.

FINANCE

B. Finance

On motion by Mr. Weinstein and seconded by Mrs. Garbisch, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Finance items:

1. Disbursements (A)

General fund disbursements (Fund 10), in the amount of \$5,489,582.51 from August 1, 2017, through August 31, 2017, are approved.

2. Disbursements (B)

GO Bond Series 2013 Construction Fund disbursements (Fund 33) in the amount of \$2,040,021.53 for August 2017 are approved.

3. Disbursements (C)

Athletic capital projects fund disbursements (Fund 32) in the amount of \$370.00 for August 2017 are approved.

4. Finance Report

The finance report for July 2017 is acknowledged and filed for audit.

INSTRUCTION

C. Instruction

On motion by Mr. Obernauer and seconded by Mrs. Garbisch, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Instruction items:

1. Camp Allegheny, Inc. – Agreement

Approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Camp Allegheny, Inc. to provide food and lodging for the fifth-grade environmental education program for the 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020 school terms.

2. PHASE 4 Learning Center, Inc. – ACT 48 Program Agreement for Services

Ratify the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Phase 4 Learning Services, Inc. for services to students for the 2017-2018 school year.

3. Spanish Immersion Pilot Program

Approve the district office administrative team to explore a Spanish Immersion pilot program for Kerr Elementary School to possibly be effective for the 2019-2020 school term.

4. Settlement

Approve settlement of claim by parents of student H.M. as presented.

LEGISLATION/POLICY

D. Legislation/Policy

On motion by Mr. Schmidt and seconded by Mrs. Garbisch, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Legislation/Policy item:

1. Policy – Revised

Approve the following revised policy:

No. 625 – Procurement Cards

PERSONNEL

E. Personnel

On motion by Mrs. Foster and seconded by Mrs. Garbisch, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Personnel items:

Candidates for employment under this section are 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.

1. Appointments

a. Administration

- (1) Cassandra L. Pencek is approved as an assistant principal at Dorseyville Middle School. This position is available due to the transfer of Timothy Mahoney.

Certificate:	Administrative I
Education:	Principal Certificate, California University of PA, 2014 M.Ed., Slippery Rock University, 2008 B.S., Slippery Rock University, 2003
Experience:	Intern, Seneca Valley School District Intern, Mars Area School District 2 Years, LeBoeuf School District
Effective:	To Be Determined
Salary:	\$100,000 (prorated for 2017-2018 school year)
Fringe Benefits:	As Per Act 93 Agreement

b. Educational Support

- (1) Rebecca D. Apter is approved as a personal care assistant at Hartwood Elementary School, effective September 25, 2017. Salary will be set at \$17.22/hour based on the salary scale for personal care assistants, Step 1, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- (2) Jeanine A. Boerio is ratified as a personal care assistant at Hartwood Elementary School, effective September 11, 2017. Salary is set at \$17.22/hour based on the salary scale for personal care assistants, Step 1, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- (3) Andrea L. Davies is ratified as a personal care assistant at O'Hara Elementary School, effective August 25, 2017. Salary is set at \$17.22/hour based on the salary scale for personal care assistants, Step 1, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- (4) Emily T. Hanser is ratified as a personal care assistant at Dorseyville Middle School, effective August 25, 2017. Salary is set at \$17.22/hour based on the salary scale for personal care assistants, Step 1, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- (5) Jansen K. Hartmann is ratified as a personal care assistant at Hartwood Elementary School, effective August 25, 2017. Salary is set at \$17.22/hour based on the salary scale for personal care assistants, Step 1, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.

c. Supplemental Contract – Athletic

- (1) The following athletic supplemental contract is ratified for the 2017-2018 school term:

Sean Baldis Flag Football Intramural – Kerr \$1,319

d. Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic

- (1) The non-athletic supplemental contracts for the 2017-2018 school term are ratified/approved.

2. Resignations

a. Educational Support

- (1) The resignation of Jansen K. Hartmann, personal care assistant at Hartwood Elementary School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective August 30, 2017.

b. Nutrition Center

- (1) The resignation of Anita M. Demme, nutrition center employee at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective August 21, 2017.

c. Supplemental Contracts – Athletic

- (1) The resignation of Joseph Farrell, JV baseball assistant coach, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective August 9, 2017.
- (2) The resignation of Timothy Frank, JV baseball coach, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective August 29, 2017.

3. Leave

a. Professional

- (1) Natalie J. Gourley, school nurse at Kerr Elementary School, is approved for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective October 27, 2017, with return scheduled for March 23, 2018.

4. Summer Program

a. High School

- (1) Deborah Welty is ratified as a health instructor for the Fox Chapel Area High School Summer Program at a rate of \$1,500.00.
- (2) Mary Ruth Hammer is ratified as an instructor for the Activity Day Freshman LAUNCH Program at a rate of \$30.00 hour with a maximum of 4 hours.

5. Purchase-of-Service Agreement

a. Health Services

- (1) A purchase-of-service agreement between Kimberly L. Rosenberg and the Fox Chapel Area School District is ratified, effective August 29, 2017, through the end of the 2017-2018 school term, at a rate of \$22.82 per hour.

6. Volunteers – Athletic

- a. The following athletic volunteers are ratified, effective August 22, 2017:

Darla Seifried
John Susi

Girls' Volleyball – HS
Boys' Baseball – HS

OPERATIONS/COOPERATIVE SERVICES

E. Operations/Cooperative Services

On motion by Mrs. Garbisch and seconded by Mr. Obernauer, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Operations/Cooperative Services items:

1. Change Orders – O'Hara Elementary School Alterations Project

Approve change orders GC-001, GC-002, GC-003, and GC-004, at a total cost of \$59,706.34 for the O'Hara Elementary 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.

2. Change Order – Fairview Elementary School Alterations Project

Approve change order HC-001 at a cost of \$674.00 for the Fairview Elementary School alterations project. This change order was reviewed and approved by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority Board.

3. Choral Program Accompanists – Agreements

- a. The agreement between Benjamin Bliss and the Fox Chapel Area School District as choral program accompanist is ratified, beginning July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, at a rate of \$28.00 per hour.
- b. The agreement between Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo and the Fox Chapel Area School District as choral program accompanist is ratified, beginning July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, at a rate of \$28.00 per hour.
- c. The agreement between Kathy Sutcliffe and the Fox Chapel Area School District as choral program accompanist is ratified, beginning July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, at a rate of \$28.00 per hour.

4. Section 504 and ADA Compliance Officer – Fox Chapel Area School District

Approve the appointment of Timothy A. Mahoney as Fox Chapel Area School District Section 504 and ADA compliance officer effective immediately.

G. 2018 Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) Officers Election

On motion by Mrs. Rutkowski and seconded by Mrs. Garbisch, it was unanimously resolved to approve the support of the following slate of officers for the 2018 PSBA election. The board secretary will electronically cast the vote on behalf of the Board of School Directors.

President-Elect – Otto W. Voit III
Vice President – Eric Wolfgang
Treasurer – Mike Gossert
Western At Large – Daniel O'Keefe
PSBA Insurance Trust Trustee – Marianne L. Neel

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE

Justin Breen, student government president, gave his report. Kristen Friday, student government vice president, was also present. He said school year has gotten off to a great start, highlighting the following: Be the Change Campaign in coordination with the Community Outreach Club held a drive to benefit those affected by Hurricane Harvey; the Fox's Den student store has been transformed and will reopen at the high school open house; the student body is looking forward to Homecoming this year with the theme of "Decades."

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Lang welcomed Ms. Pencek to the district and said this has been one of the smoothest openings of the school year that she can remember.

BOARD COMMENTS

There were five comments. Mr. Schmidt, Mrs. Garbisch, Mr. Weinstein, Mrs. Foster, and Mrs. Wirginis all welcomed Ms. Pencek to the district. Mr. Schmidt also recognized and complimented Dorseyville Middle School on their 911 activities.

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m.



Kathleen Anuszek
Board Secretary