

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

OCTOBER 9, 2017

**CALL TO ORDER**

The 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 October 9, 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. Mauro, Obernauer, Schmidt, and Wirginis, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Garbisch, and Mrs. Rutkowski. Absent were Mr. Weinstein 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 Dr. McCommons, deputy superintendent, who then introduced the guests.

• Fox Chapel Area School District teacher **Alison Francis** has been named a first-place winner in The Henry Ford's Innovation Nation Teacher Innovator Awards. Mrs. Francis, who is the facilitator of the district's Creativity and Literacy Program, was one of 10 first place winners from across the nation in this contest that recognizes America's most innovative teachers. There was a total of 10 grand prize winners and 10 first-place winners in the contest which is open to pre-K-12 grade educators from across the nation.

The Henry Ford Awards recognize teachers who are using the classroom to inspire innovation, creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking among students. Mrs. Francis was the only teacher from Pennsylvania to be recognized as part of The Henry Ford Awards this year. Earlier in 2017, Mrs. Francis was named the winner of the Carnegie Science Center's Elementary Educator Award for her innovative teaching in STEM and maker education.

The Henry Ford Award winners were selected by a team of judges that included a past Teacher Innovator Award winner, as well as industry experts. Judges selected the winners based on their original and creative approach to teaching, their demonstrated resourcefulness, and the positive impact they made. Student engagement, learning goals, and evidence of achieving those goals were also taken into consideration.

As a first-place winner, Mrs. Francis received an innovation teaching kit that includes "The Henry Ford's Innovation Nation" Season Two DVD set, merchandise from The Henry Ford, and more. The awards are sponsored by The Henry Ford and Litton Entertainment, in conjunction with the Emmy-winning television show "The Henry Ford's Innovation Nation" on CBS as part of the "CBS Dream Team, It's Epic!" Saturday morning block.

• **Mobile Fab Lab Presentation and Tour – Megan Cicconi**, Executive Director of Instructional and Innovative Leadership, **Justin Papariello**, Fab Lab Manager and High School Technology Education Teacher, and students **Sean Ellis**, **Nathaniel Good**, **Trevor Klatt**, and **Christian Reiber**

Dr. Freeman and Mr. Wirginis thanked the guests, and everyone toured the Mobile Fab Lab.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

### •High School Student Named Finalist in National STEM Competition

Fox Chapel Area High School freshman **Sanjay Seshan** has been selected as a finalist in the 2017 Broadcom MASTERS, the nation's premier and most prestigious STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) competition for middle school students. Sanjay is one of only 30 students from across the United States to be named a finalist. The Broadcom MASTERS (Math, Applied Science, Technology and Engineering for Rising Stars) is a program founded and produced by the Society for Science & the Public and it seeks to inspire young scientists, engineers, and innovators who will solve the grand challenges of the future.

The finalists were selected by a panel of distinguished scientists and engineers from a record-high of 2,499 applicants in 37 states, Puerto Rico, and the Department of Defense overseas. Sanjay will next compete in Washington, D.C., October 19-25 in a rigorous competition that will test the participants' abilities in STEM, critical thinking, communication, creativity, and collaboration. The winners of the competition will be named October 24 and more than \$100,000 in awards, including a top prize of \$25,000, will be given. Because he is a finalist, Sanjay will receive \$500 and an all-expense paid trip to the Washington, D.C., competition, and Dorseyville Middle School will receive a \$1,000 to use toward STEM activities.

Sanjay's project is titled "Keeping Our Heads Above Water: Early Detection of Stress in Buried Water Pipes." When Sanjay traveled through a poor area in India, he was dismayed by the drinking water system. It was basically "one community pipe and leaking water everywhere," he recalled. Then he investigated the United States' system for getting drinking water to communities. "I was stunned to learn that the water infrastructure in the U.S. was deteriorating," he said. Moreover, water main breaks and leaks were wasting huge amounts of clean water. Sanjay wanted to find a way to detect leaks early as that would save precious water from going to waste. An out-of-tune clarinet inspired him to experiment with the acoustic properties of pipe.

Prior to being named a finalist, Sanjay was among the Top 300 Broadcom MASTERS. This list also included Fox Chapel Area High School freshman **Amulya Garimella**. Both students were originally selected based on the projects they completed in eighth grade and presented as part of the Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair held in the spring of 2017.

## 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 September 11, 2017. On motion by Mrs. Garbisch and seconded by Mr. Schmidt, the minutes were approved as submitted.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was one comment. Kelly Caracciolo, 127 Woodshire Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15215, asked about the fifth-grade class sizes at O'Hara Elementary School, and asked which elementary schools the children who live in the housing developments proposed for Indiana Township will attend. Dr. Freeman, Dr. McCommons, Mrs. Garbisch, and Mr. Wirginis addressed her 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. Schmidt 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 \$10,002,363.55 from September 1, 2017, through September 30, 2017, are approved.

**2. Disbursements (B)**

GO Bond Series 2013 Construction Fund disbursements (Fund 33) in the amount of \$2,132,503.70 for September 2017 are approved.

**3. Finance Report**

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

**4. Budget Transfers**

The budget transfers for 2017-2018 are approved.

**INSTRUCTION**

**C. Instruction**

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

**1. Settlement**

Approve settlement of claim by parents of student J.N. as presented.

**LEGISLATION/POLICY**

**D. Legislation/Policy**

No action is requested.

**PERSONNEL**

**E. Personnel**

On motion by Mr. Mauro 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. Resignations**

**a. Nutrition Center**

- (1) The resignation of Sarah J. DiMatteo, nutrition center employee at Kerr Elementary School, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective October 2, 2017.

**b. Supplemental Contracts – Athletic**

- (1) The resignation of Geoffrey M. Dutelle, boys' middle school basketball assistant coach, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective September 7, 2017.
- (2) The resignation of Maxwell A. DePellegrini, boys' middle school volleyball head coach, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective September 7, 2017.

**c. Supplemental Contract – Non-Athletic**

- (1) The resignation of Nancy W. Stewart, spring musical costume design, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective September 5, 2017.

**2. Leaves**

**a. Professional**

- (1) Megan L. Glies, elementary teacher at Kerr Elementary School, is approved for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective November 8, 2017, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2018-2019 school year.
- (2) Kristen L. Quinlisk, science teacher at Dorseyville Middle School, is approved for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective November 6, 2017, with return scheduled for the first day of the second nine weeks of the 2018-2019 school year.

**3. Appointments**

**a. Educational Support**

- (1) Elisa A. Vagnozzi is ratified as business office accounts payable/purchasing secretary for Fox Chapel Area School District, effective October 2, 2017. Salary will be set at \$18.39/hour based on the salary scale for Twelve-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 Susan Johnson.

**b. Custodial/Maintenance**

- (1) Timothy R. McNally is ratified as a 10-month, 8-hour/day custodian at Fox Chapel Area High School, effective October 2, 2017. Salary and benefits will be set as per the Service Employees International Union Local 32BJ Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the retirement of James Thompson.
- (2) Arthur G. Beckas is approved as a 10-month, 8-hour/day custodian at Fox Chapel Area High School, effective October 9, 2017. Salary and benefits will be set as per the Service Employees International Union Local 32BJ Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the retirement of Dolores Gould.

**c. Supplemental Contracts – Athletic**

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

|                      |   |            |
|----------------------|---|------------|
| John T. Alerich      | Assistant Wrestling Coach – MS              | \$4,272.00 |
| Geoffrey M. Dutelle* | Girls Assistant Basketball Coach – MS       | \$2,481.00 |
| Aleta M. McBriar     | Head Cheerleading Coach (Winter) – MS (50%) | \$ 686.50  |
| Shelley A. Zottola   | Head Cheerleading Coach (Winter) – MS (50%) | \$ 686.50  |

\*One-year position

**d. Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic**

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

|                               |                                     |            |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Stacie L. Dojonovic-Schutzman | Best Buddies Coordinator (50%) – HS | \$ 500.00  |
| Anne E. Englert               | Musical Costume Design              | \$2,084.00 |
| Anna L. Hopper                | Best Buddies Coordinator (50%) – HS | \$ 500.00  |
| James W. Jones                | Overnight Camp Counselor            | \$1,372.00 |
| Richard G. Mathieu            | Overnight Camp Counselor            | \$1,372.00 |
| Jennifer V. Squeglia          | Overnight Camp Counselor            | \$1,372.00 |

**4. Changes of Status**

**a. Educational Support**

- (1) Susan D. Johnson, twelve-month business office accounts payable/purchasing secretary for Fox Chapel Area School District, is ratified as a twelve-month nutrition center/ancillary services secretary for Fox Chapel Area School District, effective August 31, 2017. There is no change in salary or benefits. This position is available due to the transfer of Robin McAnulty.
- (2) Robin L. McAnulty, twelve-month nutrition center/ancillary services secretary for Fox Chapel Area School District, is ratified as a ten-month library clerk for Fairview Elementary School, effective September 11, 2017. Salary is set at \$19.16 per hour, based on Group II, Step 3, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the retirement of Karen Claus.

**5. Volunteer – Athletic**

- a. The following athletic volunteer is ratified, effective September 11, 2017:

|             |                        |
|-------------|------------------------|
| David Neely | Girls' Volleyball – HS |
|-------------|------------------------|

**OPERATIONS/COOPERATIVE SERVICES**

**E. Operations/Cooperative Services**

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

**1. Change Orders – Dorseyville Middle School Alterations Project**

Approve change orders PC-004, PC-005, HC-011, and HC-012 at a total cost of \$14,758.05 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.

**2. Change Orders – O’Hara Elementary School Alterations Project**

Approve change orders GC-005 and GC-006, at a total cost of \$4,463.56 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.

**3. Change Order – Fairview Elementary School Alterations Project**

Approve change order HC-001 at a cost of \$2,618.00 for the Fairview Elementary School alterations project. This change order was reviewed and approved by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority Board.

**4. Special Olympics Pennsylvania – Memorandum of Understanding**

Approve the memorandum of understanding between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Special Olympics Pennsylvania to provide an Interscholastic Unified Sports Indoor Bocce program effective immediately, through June 30, 2018.

**5. ALICE Training Institute LLC – Master Service Agreement**

Approve the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and ALICE Training Institute LLC to provide services for certain training programs for the term October 15, 2017, through October 14, 2019, at an annual cost of \$4,000.00.

**6. Donation – O’Hara Elementary School Music Education Fund**

Accept an anonymous donation to the O’Hara Elementary School Music Education Fund in the amount of \$1,000.00 in honor of teachers Shawn Funk and Alex Sackandy.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Justin Breen, student government president, gave his report on Homecoming; the blood drive; the collection of hats, scarves, and gloves for students in the district; and the upcoming volunteering of the Community Outreach Committee at the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank.

**FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE**

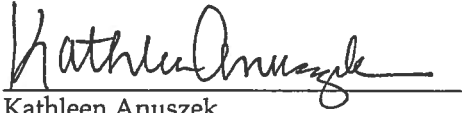
Mr. Frank commented that Homecoming was a fantastic community event.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

There were three comments. Mr. Schmidt complimented Dr. McCommons for his part in the Mobile Fab Lab video. Mr. Mauro and Mr. Wirginis thanked Kelly Caracciolo for expressing her concerns.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen Anuszek", written over a horizontal line.

Kathleen Anuszek  
Board Secretary