

November 9, 2015

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 November 9, 2015. President Nancy B. Foster called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Also in attendance were Vice President Terry L. Wirginis; Assistant Secretary Sandra M. Garbisch; Somer Obernauer Jr.; Lisa M. Rutkowski; Eric C. Schmidt; Dharmesh Vyas, M.D., Ph.D.; and Joel R. Weinstein.

GUESTS (November 2, 2015)

Certificates of Merit – The Board presented certificates of merit to the following students:

•Dorseyville Middle School seventh grader **Amulya Garimella** has been named a third place national winner in the 2015 Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge. Amulya received a \$1,000 prize and a student adventure trip to a destination such as Costa Rica. A total of ten middle school students were named finalists in the program in June and Amulya was the only student from Pennsylvania to attain finalist status.

The finalists in grades five-eight were chosen for using their scientific thinking and imagination to create a solution to everyday problems that will improve lives and strengthen communities around the globe. With a goal of preventing distractions, Amulya invented a distraction-monitoring prototype that alerts the user of distraction by measuring EEG brainwaves.

Over the summer, Amulya had the opportunity to work directly with a 3M scientist to develop her personal invention as part of a unique summer mentorship program. She worked with a scientist to advance her ideas from a theoretical concept into an actual prototype. Amulya then presented her invention during the competition's final event October 12 and 13 at the 3M Innovation Center in St. Paul, Minnesota. At the final competition, the finalists shared their completed inventions and were evaluated by a distinguished panel of judges.

"3M is rooted in scientific exploration and an unwavering belief that every problem has a solution. Watching these middle school students embrace this core belief with such zeal and passion has been truly remarkable," said Jon Lindekugel, senior vice president, business development at 3M.

"The Young Scientist Challenge empowers students with the tools and experiences they need to apply science and their critical thinking skills to solve real-world problems," said Bill Goodwyn, president and CEO of Discovery Education. "We are proud to stand alongside 3M in their efforts to advance STEM education through this unique project-based learning opportunity that celebrates the next generation of innovators, creators, engineers, and scientists."

Since its inception, the Young Scientist Challenge has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in student scholarships and prizes, paired students with world-renowned scientists to give them real-world insights, and delivered much-needed science resources to millions of students, teachers, and families across the country.

•The Fox Chapel Area High School Boys' Varsity Golf Team recently won the WPIAL Class AAA Section 4 team title. The team members were: seniors **Griffin Bartley, James Braham, Mark Calandra, Matthew Friday, Matthew Hardiman, Michael Hudic, Michael Marsico, Nathan Matisko, and Patrick Monteverde**; juniors **Anthony Cordaro and Alexander Lawson**; sophomore **Andrew Friend**; and freshmen **Gregor Meyer and Grant Thiele**. The team finished with an undefeated record in section play (12-0).

Additionally, Anthony was named the WPIAL Class AAA Section 4 champion and Alex qualified for the PIAA Golf Championships that were held October 26 and 27, 2015, at Heritage Hills Golf Resort in York, Pennsylvania.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Enrollment and Fire Drills – Received the enrollment and the fire drills report.

Information

•Educators Named “Champions of Change”

Fox Chapel Area School District teachers **Cathie Gillner** and **Michelle Ulanowicz** have been named “Champions of Change” by the Allegheny Intermediate Unit’s Center for Creativity and its partner, Common Sense Media. The award recognizes those educators and leaders who use creative approaches to enhance learning and who serve as an example of what should occur in every classroom for every student. Champions of Change awardees embrace technology and seek new and effective ways to engage children in the learning process. The award ceremony, held on October 23, 2015, followed a luncheon for honorees and their district nominators.

Gillner is a business applications teacher at Dorseyville Middle School and she has been working in the Fox Chapel Area School District since 1997. Ulanowicz is a kindergarten teacher at O’Hara Elementary School and she has been with the district since 2012.

The Champions of Change award ceremony coincided with other ConnectED Educator Month events. Begun in 2011, ConnectED Educator Month is an effort to get more educators “connected” to each other, to deepen the learning of those already connected, and support collaboration and innovation in professional development.

The Fox Chapel Area School District is one of nearly 300 educational organizations across the nation that participated in this effort to increase awareness of the extraordinary efforts teachers and administrators are making to incorporate technology in today’s classrooms. Throughout the month, educators had opportunities to participate in a variety of professional development and online events.

•Student Places in Ohio Forensic Tournament

Fox Chapel Area High School junior **Jeremy Rodrigues** recently placed at the John F. Kennedy High School Invitational Forensic Tournament. Jeremy won fourth place in Student Congress.

The tournament was held October 24, 2015, at John F. Kennedy High School in Warren, Ohio. Approximately 270 students from 18 schools from Pennsylvania and Ohio competed at the event.

•Students Inducted Into Spanish National Honor Society

A total of 23 Fox Chapel Area High School students were inducted into the Spanish National Honor Society October 12, 2015. The students are seniors **Kelly Arel** (president), **Jessica Berg**, **Lydia Beyer** (secretary), **Francesca Cano-Czagany**, **Matthew Friday**, **Benjamin Friedland**, **Kota Furuhata**, **John Gurklis**, **Mary Humphrey**, **Melissa Jerpe**, **Kathleen Kiszka**, **Julia Lynch**, **Nathan Matisko**, **Ryan Morrissey** (treasurer), **Amanda Puthenpurayil**, **Siddharth Rajupet**, **Jesuloluwa Shodipo**, **Brad Vayonis**, **Michele Wolff**, **Emilie Yousem**, and **Megan Zonker** (vice-president) and juniors **Nadia Islam** and **Alexander Smolar**. The returning members are seniors **Elena Berg** and **Cameron Walter**.

The students were inducted into the Spanish National Honor Society October 12 in a ceremony at Fox Chapel Area High School. The students qualify based on their achievements in the Spanish language classes at Fox Chapel Area High School. This year marked the 15th year for the induction ceremony at Fox Chapel Area High School.

•Students Named to All-Star Girls’ Soccer Teams

Five Fox Chapel Area High School students have been named to all-star soccer teams. Seniors **Taylor Cohen** and **Maggie Coulson** and junior **Deena DeBaldo** were named to the All-WPIAL Girls’ Soccer team. Additionally, Seniors Taylor, Maggie, and **Alexis Schwartz** and juniors Deena and **Dixon Veltri** were named to the WPIAL Class AAA Section 3 Soccer Team.

•Students Named to All-Section Volleyball Teams

Five Fox Chapel Area High School students were named to all-section volleyball teams. Senior **Ana Spangenberg** was named to the WPIAL Class AAA Section 4 First Team. Seniors **Murphy Patterson**, **Kayla Slovenec**, and **Sarah Supsura** and junior **Desirae Buccigrossi** were all named to the second team.

•High School Fall Play

Fox Chapel Area High School students will perform “You Can’t Take It With You” by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart for their fall play. Local director and producer Kristiann Josephs is in charge of this fall’s show. Teacher Joseph Gass is serving as the technical director.

The play will be performed November 12, 13, and 14, 2015, at 7 p.m. All performances will be held in the Fox Chapel Area High School auditorium and tickets are \$8 each. Tickets will be sold at the door.

•Fox Chapel Area School Board Upcoming Meetings

December 1, 2015 – 7 p.m. – Combined Agenda Study Sess. & Reg. Bus. Mtg. – HS LGI Room
The reorganization meeting will be held immediately following the December 1 combined agenda study session and regular business meeting.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Approved the minutes of the regular business meeting dated October 12, 2015.

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 \$21,500,200.46 from October 1, 2015, through October 31, 2015, were approved.

Disbursements (B) – GO Bond Series 2013 Construction Fund disbursements (Fund 33) in the amount of \$1,418,947.76 for October 2015 were approved.

Disbursements (C) – Capital projects fund disbursements (Fund 31) in the amount of \$521,768.75 for October 2015 were approved.

Disbursements (D) – Athletic capital projects funds disbursements (Fund 32) in the amount of \$5,000.00 for October 2015 were approved.

Finance Report – The finance report for September 2015 was acknowledged and filed for audit.

Budget Transfers – Several budget transfers for 2015-2016 were approved.

Award of Bids – The administration was authorized to award the following bids for the 2015-2016 school year:

Athletic Supplies Bids (Spring) – BSN Sports, Passon’s Sports & US Games, P.O. Box 49, Jenkintown, PA 19046 – \$2,283.77; Century Sports, Inc., 115 E. McMurray Road, McMurray, PA 15317 – \$8,481.44; Pyramid School Products, 6510 N. 54th Street, Tampa, FL 33610 – \$5,637.96; MF Athletics, P.O. Box 8090, Cranston, RI 02920-0090 – \$723.35; and Aluminum Athletic Equipment Co., 1000 Enterprise Drive, Royersford, PA 19468-1298 – \$159.00.

Student Activity Financial Reports – The first quarter 2015-2016 middle school and high school student activity financial reports were acknowledged and filed for audit.

Instruction

January 2016 Graduates – The following students are eligible for midyear graduation, subject to final approval by the senior program high school principal: **Hailey Balog, Madeleine DiMedio, James DiVittorio, Charles Fletcher, Rebecca Francis, Emily Hartz, Nasreen Hashmie, Jadian Jackson, Tyler Simonic, Asia Stewart, Carlos Valenzuela, Michael Van Kirk, Shealyn Viccari, and Shannon Yount.**

Course Addition – Approved the following course addition for the secondary program, effective for the 2016-2017 school year: Business Management.

Stipulated Adjudication – Approved the stipulated adjudication dated October 29, 2015, for unnamed student A as presented.

Legislation/Policy

Policy – New – Approved the following new policy:

- No. 824 – Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries.

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

Professional – Accepted the following professional resignations:

- **Lisa A. Barrera**, special education teacher at O'Hara Elementary School, under the retirement incentive approved at the February 10, 2014, Board meeting, effective the day after the last day of the 2015-2016 school term.
- **Anne E. Brasile**, reading teacher at Dorseyville Middle School, under the retirement incentive approved at the February 10, 2014, Board meeting, effective the day after the last day of the 2015-2016 school term.
- **Mark J. Dellert**, art teacher at O'Hara Elementary School, under the retirement incentive approved at the February 10, 2014, Board meeting, effective the day after the last day of the 2015-2016 school term.
- **Douglas G. Martin**, communications teacher at Fox Chapel Area High School, under the retirement incentive approved at the February 10, 2014, Board meeting, effective the day after the last day of the 2015-2016 school term.
- **Charles A. Mesiano**, social studies teacher at Fox Chapel Area High School, under the retirement incentive approved at the February 10, 2014, Board meeting, effective the day after the last day of the 2015-2016 school term.
- **Sally A. Meyers**, English/gifted education teacher at Fox Chapel Area High School, under the retirement incentive approved at the February 10, 2014, Board meeting, effective the day after the last day of the 2015-2016 school term.
- **Elizabeth A. Moser**, RtII facilitator at Fairview Elementary School and Hartwood Elementary School, under the retirement incentive approved at the February 10, 2014, Board meeting, effective the day after the last day of the 2015-2016 school term.
- **Adele L. Selinger**, science teacher at Fox Chapel Area High School, under the retirement incentive approved at the February 10, 2014, Board meeting, effective the day after the last day of the 2015-2016 school term.
- **Theresa L. Solomon**, elementary teacher at O'Hara Elementary School, under the retirement incentive approved at the February 10, 2014, Board meeting, effective the day after the last day of the 2015-2016 school term.

Supplemental Contract – Athletic – Accepted the following athletic supplemental contract resignation:

- **Erin Bruni**, high school head swimming coach, due to personal reasons, effective immediately.

Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic – Accepted the following non-athletic supplemental contract resignations:

- **Mairi Cooper**, spring musical orchestra director at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to personal reasons, effective the end of the 2014-2015 school term.
- **Jessica L. Markowski**, newspaper sponsor (50%) at Dorseyville Middle School, due to personal reasons, effective the end of the 2014-2015 school term.

Leave

Professional – Approved the following professional leave:

- **Christa L. Dolansky**, autistic support teacher at Fox Chapel Area High School, for child-rearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, beginning January 4, 2016, with return scheduled for May 17, 2016.

Appointments

Custodial/Maintenance – Approved the following custodial appointment:

- **James C. Hammers** for a 10-month, eight-hours per day, custodial position at Fox Chapel Area High School, effective November 10, 2015. Salary and fringe benefits are per the Service Employees International Union Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to internal transfers resulting from the retirement of **Milton Brucker**.

Educational Support – Approved the following personal care assistant appointments:

- **Alexandra K. Schanck** as a personal care assistant at Hartwood Elementary School, effective November 10, 2015. Hourly salary was set 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.
- **Darlene M. Tibbens** as a personal care assistant at Hartwood Elementary School, effective November 10, 2015. Hourly salary was set 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.

Nutrition Center – Ratified the following nutrition center appointment:

- **Sarah J. DiMatteo** as a permanent, part-time (three-hours per day) nutrition center employee in the Fairview Elementary cafeteria. Hourly salary was set with no fringe benefits, effective October 19, 2015.

Supplemental Contracts – Athletic – The following athletic supplemental contracts were ratified/approved for the 2015-2016 school term: **Ryan Moore** – Middle School Girls' Volleyball Assistant Coach and **Kristi Vacanti** – Middle School Girls' Volleyball Head Coach.

Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic – The following non-athletic supplemental contracts were approved/ratified for the 2015-2016 school term: **Adam Danielson** – Computer Maintenance, O'Hara; **Jennifer DePoli** – Assistant Yearbook Sponsor (50%), High School; **Dennis Emert** – Spring Musical Orchestra Director; **Lisa Lang** – Mentor Teacher, Fairview (1st Semester); **Denise Lynch** – Newspaper Sponsor (50%), Dorseyville; and **Tara MacDowell** – Assistant Yearbook Sponsor (50%), High School.

Leave Replacement

Professional – Ratified the following professional leave replacement:

- **David J. Kasian** as a leave replacement autistic support teacher at Dorseyville Middle School and Fox Chapel Area High School effective October 12, 2015, through May 17, 2016.

Purchase-of-Service

School Psychologist Services – Ratified the following purchase of service agreements:

- between **Jennifer H. Skirtich** and the Fox Chapel Area School District to provide special education evaluations, effective October 19, 2015, through June 30, 2016, at an hourly rate.
- between **Emily R. Stephenson** and the Fox Chapel Area School District to provide special education evaluations, effective October 19, 2015, through June 30, 2016, at an hourly rate.
- between **Jenna Woodarek** and the Fox Chapel Area School District to provide special education evaluations, effective October 19, 2015, through June 30, 2016, at an hourly rate.

Change of Status

Educational Support – Ratified the following secretarial change of status:

- **Susan R. Nichols**, 12-month building office secretary at O'Hara Elementary School, as a 12-month pupil services secretary for the Fox Chapel Area School District, effective October 26, 2015. There is no change in salary or benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the resignation of **Janet Delli Gatti**.

Health Services

Hourly Position – Ratified the following hourly position:

- **Donna M. Wallace**, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner, for a non-benefited, hourly position to assist the Fox Chapel Area School District's appointed physician with sports physicals at Dorseyville Middle School and Fox Chapel Area High School, effective June 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016.

Operations/Cooperative Services

Transfer of Clay Street Property – Resolution 2015-14 – Approved Resolution 2015-14 authorizing the transfer of Clay Street Property to the Borough of Sharpsburg.

Agreement for Sale and the Purchase of Real Estate – Block and Lot 290-A-50 – Approved the execution of the agreement for sale and the purchase of real estate identified as block and lot 290-A-50 for the sale price of \$199,000.00, and authorized the administration to issue payment or disbursement of deposit and purchase monies required.

Authority Board Appointment – Approved the reappointment of Kenneth Haase to the Fox Chapel Area School Authority Board for a five-year term, effective January 1, 2016.

Plancon Part I – Interim Reporting – Resolution 2015-15 – Approved Resolution 2015-15 authorizing the submission of Plancon Part I to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Change Orders – Fox Chapel Area High School Construction – Approved change orders 002-PC-012, 003-MC-008, 004-EC-16, and 005-FS-001 at a total cost of \$35,870.95 for the high school construction project. These change orders were reviewed and approved by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority Board.

Special Counsel – Approved, pursuant to Section 406 of the Public School Code (24 P.S. § 4-406), the appointment of Marcus & Shapira LLP, as special counsel to the district for a personnel matter.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 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*