

February 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 February 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; Treasurer Joel R. Weinstein; Robert Mauro; Somer Obernauer Jr.; Lisa M. Rutkowski; Eric C. Schmidt; and Dharmesh Vyas, M.D., Ph.D.

## GUESTS

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

**Proposed 2017-2018 School Calendar** — The proposed 2017-2018 school calendar is available on the district's website at [www.fcasd.edu](http://www.fcasd.edu) and in the school offices. A final recommendation will be made to the Board of School Directors as part of the March 13, 2017, regular business meeting agenda.

### Information

#### •District Placed on AP® District Honor Roll

The Fox Chapel Area School District is one of 433 school districts in the United States and Canada being honored by the College Board with placement on the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual AP District Honor Roll. Schools included in the AP (Advanced Placement) District Honor Roll had to show significant gains in students access and success. To be included, the district had to, since 2014, increase the number of students participating in AP while also increasing or maintaining the percentage of students earning AP Exam scores of 3 or higher. Reaching these goals shows that the Fox Chapel Area School District is successfully identifying motivated, academically-prepared students who are ready for AP. Districts on the honor roll are also committed to expanding the availability of AP courses among prepared and motivated students of all backgrounds.

“Congratulations to all the teachers and administrators in this district who have worked so tirelessly to both expand access to AP and also to help students succeed on the AP Exams,” said Trevor Packer, the College Board's head of AP and Instruction. “These teachers and administrators are delivering real opportunity in their schools and classrooms, and students are rising to the challenge.” Helping more students learn at a higher level *and* earn higher AP scores is an objective of all members of the AP community, from AP teachers to district and school administrators to college professors.

In 2016, more than 4,000 colleges and universities around the world received AP scores for college credit, advanced placement, or both, and/or consideration in the admission process.

Inclusion on the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual AP District Honor Roll is based on a review of three years of AP data, from 2014 to 2016, looking across 37 AP Exams, including world language and culture.

#### •DMS Named State Winner in Samsung® Contest

Dorseyville Middle School has been named the state winner in the 2017 Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest. The school is one of only 51 state winners from across the nation from thousands of schools and Dorseyville's submission was headed by technology education teacher **Joe Eisel**.

Prior to becoming a state winner, the school was named a state finalist and, as a state finalist, Mr. Eisel submitted an activity plan outlining how he would address the challenge, “Show how STEAM can be applied to help improve your local community.” His entry was chosen for “its innovative approach to advancing interest in STEM among your students as well as making an impact in your community.” As a state winner, Dorseyville will receive a Samsung camcorder, a Samsung laptop, and a minimum of \$25,000 in technology. Mr. Eisel and his students will use that equipment to create a video demonstrating how STEAM can be applied to help improve the local community, which will then be entered into the national competition.

The Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest is a nationwide competition that challenges students to creatively use Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math (STEAM) skills to address real-world issues and make a difference in their local communities.

#### •Student Magazine Wins National Awards

Fox Chapel Area High School's 2015-2016 literary arts magazine “Tapestry” has received two major awards. The magazine received a “Superior” ranking in the 2016 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Program to Recognize Excellence in Student Literary Magazines. Only five student magazines from across the state received this ranking. Additionally, the magazine was also named a first place winner in the 2016 American Scholastic Press Association's Annual Contest/Review for Scholastic Yearbooks, Magazines and Newspapers.

The 2015-2016 student editors of "Tapestry" were 2016 graduates **Sophie Rodosky** (editor-in-chief), **Eli Berman**, **Maria Burns**, **Joseph Desmone**, **Che Esch**, **Jessica Hertzberg**, **Emma Lloyd**, **Joshua Manuel**, **Nina Mulroy**, **Stephen Polcyn**, **Alisa Quemado**, **Emma Regan**, **Kristen Scipione**, and **Bailey Yousem**; and current 2016-2017 seniors **David Han** and **Emma Paulini** and juniors **Shania Khatri** and **Helen Paulini**. The students' advisor is Fox Chapel Area High School language arts teacher **Jessica Green**.

• **Telethon Breaks Record – Raises More than \$70,000**

Fox Chapel Area School District students held their 27<sup>th</sup> annual telethon December 23, 2016, and raised more than \$70,000! This year's telethon total is a record-breaking total and brings the money raised by Fox Chapel Area students to more than \$766,000 over the last 27 years for various local and regional charities.

For the second year in a row, the telethon raised money for Live Like Lou, which was founded by two parents (Suzanne and Neil Alexander) in the Fox Chapel Area School District to help ALS patients and their families in Western Pennsylvania. This year's total also included a donation of \$25,000 from an anonymous donor who works for Neil's former employer, Hefren-Tillotson. This anonymous donation was made in celebration of the Fox Chapel Area School District efforts for Live Like Lou.

The telethon involved students from all six schools in the Fox Chapel Area School District (Fairview, Hartwood, Kerr, and O'Hara elementaries; Dorseyville Middle School; and Fox Chapel Area High School). Student, teacher, parent, and community representatives also participated in the telethon benefitting Live Like Lou by making donations during the live event. Additionally, Mrs. Alexander appeared as part of the telethon and Pittsburgh Pirates skipper Clint Hurdle shared a video message. Mr. Hurdle was a personal friend of Mr. Alexander (who passed away in 2015) and is a big advocate of Live Like Lou. Fox Chapel Area students also shared a video from a visit to the Live Like Lou Center for ALS Research at the University of Pittsburgh. The telethon also featured some throwback clips from telethons from previous years. The telethon is coordinated by the marketing/management and television production students of the high school who plan and produce the event.

This year, the telethon was available in high definition for the first time and was streamed live on the "Swift Fox Media" YouTube channel. Following the broadcast, the telethon could be viewed through a link on the district's website and on the Swift Fox Media YouTube channel. It was also shown live and rebroadcast through Verizon FIOS and Comcast.

Live Like Lou, a fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, is a local organization focused on raising awareness of ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig's Disease), supporting scientific research targeted at finding a cure, and providing care for ALS patients and their families in Western Pennsylvania. Specifically, the Fox Chapel Area telethon will support Live Like Lou Patient Care Fund grants, the Iron Horse Awards for Kids grants, and the Live Like Lou Center for ALS Research. Mrs. Alexander continues the work of this important charity in Mr. Alexander's honor.

• **Students Place at Pine-Richland Forensic Tournament**

Two Fox Chapel Area High School students recently placed at the Pine-Richland High School Invitational Forensic Tournament. Senior **Ellen Pil** was elected the Presiding Officer in her house of Student Congress. Ellen was elected to this position by her peers. Additionally, sophomore **Grace Stasolla** won third place in Poetry Reading.

The tournament was held January 21, 2017, at Pine-Richland High School. Approximately 410 students from 35 regional high schools from Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia participated in the tournament.

• **Student Chosen for USA Field Hockey Team**

Fox Chapel Area High School junior **Abby Pitcairn** was recently named to the 2017 Junior National Squad. She was selected for the U.S. U-17 Women's National Team in field hockey. The team is sponsored by USA Field Hockey.

• **Student Chosen for All-Star Hockey Game**

Fox Chapel Area High School junior **Seth Krhovsky** was selected to play in the 2017 Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League (PIHL) All-Star Class 2A game. The game was played January 29 at the Alpha Ice Complex in Harmarville.

• **Students Inducted into Spanish National Honor Society**

A total of 21 Fox Chapel Area High School seniors were inducted into the Spanish National Honor Society January 12, 2017. The students are **Marissa Albrecht**, **Jared Cohen**, **Ariam Colan**, **Mikayla D'Cunha**, **Andrew**

**Fugh, Sarah Hamilton, Nadia Islam, Grace Kerr, Kevin Kilmer, Alyssa Kozer, Moira McCormick, Hannah Mueller, Mary O'Connor, Maia Pauley, John Rezzetano, Jung An "Anna" Shin, Alexander Smolar, Martin Taxay, Nathan Wecht, Elizabeth Woodwell, and Gabrielle Young.**

The students were inducted into the Spanish National Honor Society 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 16<sup>th</sup> year for Fox Chapel Area's induction ceremony.

**•Fox Chapel Area School Board Upcoming Meetings**

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 dated January 9, 2017.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

**Facilities/Transportation**

**Foster Care Transportation Plan and Memorandum of Understanding** — Ratified the Foster Care Transportation Plan and Memorandum of Understanding between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth and Families (CYF) to ensure the educational stability of Foster Care Youth: Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requirements, effective January 30, 2017.

**Finance**

**Disbursements (A)** — General fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$7,225,610.39 from January 1, 2017, through January 31, 2017, were approved.

**Disbursements (B)** — GO Bond Series 2013 Construction Fund disbursements (Fund 33) in the amount of \$542,125.23 for January 2017 were approved.

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

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

**Student Activity Financial Reports** — The second quarter 2016-2017 middle school and high school student activity financial reports were acknowledged and filed for audit.

**Resolution 2017-3** — Approved Resolution 2017-3, opposing any legislation to eliminate school property taxes.

**Exoneration of Tax Collectors** — Approved a motion to exonerate the local real estate tax collectors for Indiana Township, O'Hara Township, Aspinwall Borough, Blawnox Borough, Fox Chapel Borough, and Sharpsburg Borough for the 2016 tax duplicate and to turn over the 2016 delinquent tax listing to PA Del Tax for collection.

**Permission to Advertise – Athletic Supplies** — Authorized the advertisement of bids for the 2017-2018 school year for the following: athletic supplies (fall and winter), athletic supplies (spring), and athletic medical supplies.

**Legislation/Policy**

**Policy – Revised** — Approved the following revised policy:

- No. 613 – Cooperative Purchasing

## 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

**Administration** — Accepted the following administrative resignation:

- **Alicia M. Gismondi**, director of federal programs and student achievement for Fox Chapel Area School District, due to retirement, effective April 1, 2017.

**Custodial/Maintenance** — Accepted the following custodial resignations:

- **Rodney W. Staton**, 10-month custodian at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to personal reasons, effective December 12, 2016.
- **James E. Thompson**, 12-month custodian at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to retirement, effective February 20, 2017.

**Educational Support** — Accepted the following secretarial resignation:

- **Marie E. Dennis**, 12-month food services secretary for Fox Chapel Area School District, due to personal reasons, effective January 18, 2017.

**Purchase-of-Service** — Accepted the following purchase-of-service resignation:

- **Donna M. Wallace**, assistant to the certified nurse at Fairview Elementary School, due to personal reasons, effective January 30, 2017.

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

- **Scott H. Karavlan**, boys' football freshman assistant coach, due to personal reasons, effective January 27, 2017.

## Leaves

**Professional** — approved the following professional leaves:

- **Leah C. Rea**, elementary teacher at Hartwood Elementary School, for child-rearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective February 28, 2017, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2017-2018 school term.
- **Megan M. Reid**, elementary teacher at O'Hara Elementary School, for child-rearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective April 6, 2017, with return scheduled for clerical day before the fourth nine-week period of the 2017-2018 school term.

## Appointments

**Custodial/Maintenance** — Ratified the following custodial appointment:

- **Kevin Zmenkowski** as a 10-month, 8-hours per day custodian at Fox Chapel Area High School, effective January 23, 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 resignation of **Rodney Staton**.

**Supplemental Contracts – Athletic** — The following athletic supplemental contracts were approved/ratified for the 2016-2017 school term: **Maxwell DePellegrini** – Boys' Volleyball Head Coach – MS, **Timothy P. O'Shea** – Boys' Lacrosse Assistant Coach – HS, and **David E. Prevost** – Boys' Tennis Head Coach – HS\*.

*\*Leave replacement spring 2017.*

**Volunteers – Athletic** — The following athletic volunteers were ratified, effective January 17, 2017: **Jeremy Campbell** – Boys' Lacrosse – HS and **Mitchell DePellegrini** – Boys' Volleyball – MS.

## Extra Innings

**Substitute Teachers** — The following teachers were approved as Extra Innings substitute teachers for the 2016-2017 school term at an hourly rate: **Jeffrey J. Bonifate**, **Katelyn R. Deet**, **Dana M. Ferrari**, **Lisa M. Reppy**, and **Laura J. Sherwin**.

## Operations/Cooperative Services

**Change Orders – Dorseyville Middle School Alterations Project** — Approved change orders HC-002, HC-003, HC-004, HC-005, and FSE-001 at a total cost of \$5,803.87 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.

**Plancon Part D – Project Accounting Based on Estimates – Resolution 2017-4 – O’Hara Elementary School Alterations Project** — Approved Resolution 2017-4 authorizing the submission of Plancon Part D to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the O’Hara Elementary School alterations project.

**Plancon Part E – Design Development – Resolution 2017-5 – O’Hara Elementary School Alterations Project** — Approved Resolution 2017-5 authorizing the submission of Plancon Part E to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the O’Hara Elementary School alterations project.

**Engineering Services Proposal and Related AIA Document – Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. (HRG) – Dorseyville Middle School Site Alterations Project** — Approved the engineering services proposal and related AIA document with Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. (HRG) for the Dorseyville Middle School site alterations project.

**School Emergency Operations Plan – Updated** — Approved the updated School Emergency Operations Plan for the Fox Chapel Area School District.

**Authorization to Advertise for Bids – O’Hara Elementary School Alterations Project** — Authorized the advertisement of bids for the O’Hara Elementary School Alterations Project.

**Authorization to Advertise for Bids – Fairview Elementary School Alterations Project** — Authorized the advertisement of bids for the Fairview Elementary School Alterations Project.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE**

**FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE**

**BOARD COMMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT** — The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 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