

November 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 November 13, 2017. Vice President Nancy B. Foster called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Also in attendance were President Terry L. Wirginis (via telephone); 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 (November 6, 2017)

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

- Fox Chapel Area High School junior **Sofia Porter Bacon** had her original artwork selected for the “Art.Write.Now.Tour 2017-18.” Prior to having her piece chosen for the national display, Sofia’s artwork, entitled “How aliens return the cows they abducted,” was named a national Gold Medal winner in The Scholastic Art Awards of 2017, entered when Sofia was a sophomore. Only approximately 50 of the best works from the national competition were selected for the traveling exhibition.

Now in its eighth year, the Art.Write.Now.Tour is celebrated for being the most fresh and relevant look at creative work by young artists today. In addition to the visual artworks on display, the tour also features The Best Teen Writing of 2017, Scholastic’s annual anthology of selected National Medal writing.

In a letter to Sofia’s Fox Chapel Area High School art teacher **Christine Smith**, the Director of Exhibitions for the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Monica Johnson, stated, “We are honored to present your student’s art as an example of the very best creative work by our nation’s emerging young artists.”

The Art.Write.Now.Tour began in October 2017 and ends in June 2018. The tour will stop at Tulsa Community College in Tulsa, Oklahoma; the Living Arts & Science Center in Lexington, Kentucky; the Arnot Art Museum in Elmira, New York; and the Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio. The tour is supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts and Blick Art Materials & Utrecht Art Supplies.

- The Fox Chapel Area High School Girls’ Varsity Golf Team recently qualified for the PIAA Class AAA team championships. The team members are: seniors **Hannah Conroy, Toby Lazear, Cara Levicoff, and Sadye Miller**; juniors **Victoria Crittenden, Nicole Garcia-Tunon, Eva Heidinger, and Jessica Paper**; sophomores **Madilyn Harajda, Kyrie Nestel, and Emily Scheffler**; and freshmen **Elizabeth Conroy and Erika Litwin**. The PIAA girls’ golf championships were played October 25 at Heritage Hills Golf Resort in York, Pennsylvania.

- Two members of the Fox Chapel Area High School Boys’ Varsity Golf Team qualified for the PIAA Class AAA West Region Golf Championships. The students are junior **Gregor Meyer** and sophomore **Amani D’Ambrosio**. The championships were played at Tom’s Run Golf Course at Chestnut Ridge Golf Resort in Blairsville, Pennsylvania, on October 16, 2017.

- The Fox Chapel Area High School Varsity Girls’ Soccer Team was recently named the WPIAL Class 4A Section 3 champions. The team members were: seniors **Diana Beasley, Emilia Cano-Czagany, Fallon Curry, Katherine Goodwin, Lainey Kasian, Greta Lazzara, Katherine Livingston, Julie Mallinger, Abigail Pogue, and Katrina Stevenson**; juniors **Maura Curry, Kate Feczko, Hannah Flanders, Theresa Heidenreich, Sabrina McQuarrie, Julie Scheffler, Alexis Schutzman, and Sarah Sinnott**; sophomores **Paige Asbury, Claudia DeMartino, Samantha Dockey, Blair Echnat, Claire Fenton, Chloe Germanos, Elizabeth Giuffre, Sophia Williams, and Keara Yasko**; and freshmen **Elena Bradley, Melina Bradley, Alexa Correnti, Samantha Dunlap, Katie Eisengart, Rachel Horne, Britta Lagerquist, Lauren Marotte, Elizabeth McKee, Sophia Oehrle, Lucy Ream, Adaline Smith, and Emma Wecht**. The team’s record was nine wins and one loss in the section and their overall record was 13 wins, six losses, and one tie.

- Fox Chapel Area High School junior **Alexis Schutzman** was named Western Pennsylvania’s “Most Positive High School Athlete” in the sport of Girls Soccer. Lexie received the award from former Steelers great Hines Ward, along with 28 other winners representing a variety of boys and girls sports, at the Sixth Annual C Harper Positive High School Athlete Awards.

More than 1,200 nominations from coaches, principals, athletic directors, teachers, and parents were submitted by a total of 150 Western Pennsylvania high schools. Each athlete received a \$500 Jeff Boynton Scholarship Fund scholarship at the awards ceremony that was held June 13, 2017, at the Senator John Heinz History Center and the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum in downtown Pittsburgh.

Prior to being named a “Most Positive High School Athlete,” Lexie was featured as Positive Athlete Pittsburgh’s “Servant Leader” for December 2016. Like the “Most Positive High School Athletes,” these Prior

to being named a “Most Positive High School Athlete,” Lexie was featured as Positive Athlete Pittsburgh’s “Servant Leader” for December 2016. Like the “Most Positive High School Athletes,” these students are chosen for being optimistic, encouraging, and servant leaders, as well as having a heart for others and being willing to admit imperfections, while always giving 100 percent and always putting their team first.

“We did not put out a search for the best athletes in Western Pennsylvania,” said Ward. “We put out a search for kids with positive attitudes whose efforts don’t necessarily show up on the stat sheets. These kids are also positive role models in their schools who get involved in charitable causes, and have already learned the meaning of giving back at an early age, and many have overcome difficult circumstances and remained positive.”

Positive Athlete Pittsburgh is a movement featuring high character current and former professional athletes, led by former Steelers star and Super Bowl XL MVP Hines Ward, who are established and credible role models to young athletes. Positive Athlete is an umbrella brand for all athletes who are making a positive contribution to their communities, overcoming difficult circumstances with a positive attitude, and believe a positive attitude is essential to their success. More than \$100,000 in college scholarships have been given away through Positive Athlete Pittsburgh over the past 6 years. Positive Athlete Pittsburgh’s website (<http://pittsburgh.positiveathlete.org>) tells positive stories about the kind of role models our young athletes should aspire to be.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

Information

•High School Choir Commissions Music Piece

The Fox Chapel Area High School Choral Music Department commissioned a choral piece that was premiered in the spring of 2017 by the Fox Chapel Area High School Madrigal Singers. The group debuted the song, entitled “At Night,” at the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) Annual In-Service Conference in Erie, Pennsylvania. The piece was funded through money from the district’s Gala Fund.

The choral piece was composed by Connor Koppin, a well-known, nationally recognized, and award-winning composer, and the words are based on a poem by Amy Lowell. The song has been published through Oxford University Press and can be found on many music websites, including Oxford University Press and JW Pepper where many music educators purchase their music for the year. The commissioning of this piece ensures that the Fox Chapel Area School District’s name is being shared with choirs from around the world. The piece can be heard at: <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/at-night-9780193517936?cc=us&lang=en&#> and then click on “Audio Samples.”

The Fox Chapel Area Community Gala event was held in 2012 to raise funds for the district’s music and visual arts programs. An event paid for through the Gala Fund included a visit from nationally-known, Boston-based song leader and composer Nick Page, who came last spring and led an all-elementary chorus as part of a special Community Sing Concert. The elementary music department also commissioned a song for its choirs written by Page entitled “Train Song.” Additionally, the elementary bands commissioned a song that was debuted last spring, entitled “Bringer of War” by Brian Balmages.

•Fox Chapel Area School Board Upcoming Meetings

December 4, 2017 – 7 p.m. – Combined Agenda Study Session & Reg. Business Mtg. – High School LGI Room

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Approved the minutes of the regular business meeting dated October 9, 2017.

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 \$6,778,243.68 from October 1, 2017, through October 31, 2017, were approved.

Disbursements (B) — GO Bond Series 2013 Construction Fund disbursements (Fund 33) in the amount of \$1,734,816.01 for October 2017 were approved.

Disbursements (C) — Athletic capital projects fund disbursements (Fund 32) in the amount of \$8,265.00 for October 2017 were approved.

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

Budget Transfers — Several budget transfers for 2017-2018 were approved.

Student Activity Financial Reports — The first quarter 2017-2018 middle school and high school student activity financial reports were acknowledged and filed for audit.

Jordan Tax Service, Inc. – Real Estate Tax Collector – Fox Chapel Borough — Approved the proposal from Jordan Tax Service, Inc., dated September 15, 2017, for the preparation and collection of the 2018 through 2021 school real estate taxes within Fox Chapel Borough in the Fox Chapel Area School District at a fee of \$3.65 per tax bill.

Jordan Tax Service, Inc. – Real Estate Tax Collector – O’Hara Township — Approved the proposal from Jordan Tax Service, Inc., dated September 15, 2017, for the preparation and collection of the 2018 through 2021 school real estate taxes within O’Hara Township in the Fox Chapel Area School District at a fee of \$3.65 per tax bill.

Award of Bids — The administration was authorized to award the following bids for the 2017-2018 school year:

Athletic Supplies Bids – Spring – BSN Sports, P.O. Box 49, Jenkintown, PA 19046 – \$3,537.68; Century Sports, 115 E. McMurray Road, McMurray, PA 15317 – \$9,331.53; Pyramid School Products, 6510 N. 54th Street, Tampa, FL 33610 – \$25.00; MF Athletics, P.O. Box 8090, Cranston, RI 02920-0090 – \$991.00; and Aluminum Athletic Equipment Co., 1000 Enterprise Drive, Royersford, PA 19468-1298 – \$125.00.

Instruction

January 2018 Graduates — The following students are eligible for midyear graduation, subject to final approval by the high school lead principal: **Amanda Bozic, Brea Burkovich, Thomas Fite, Taylor Grandizio, Troy Hazard, Hailey Johnson, Ananya Malkani, Madison Marcussen, Cara Marino, Shanna McKaveney, Mallory McNally, Katelyn Photopoulos, Adam Skvorak, Eliana Tolentino, Anna Troyan, and Ruopeng Wang.**

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:

- **James P. Prager Jr.**, assistant principal at Dorseyville Middle School, due to retirement, effective January 22, 2018.

Supplemental Contracts – Athletic — Accepted the following athletic supplemental contract resignations:

- **Geoffrey M. Dutelle**, girls’ middle school volleyball coach, due to personal reasons, effective October 14, 2017.
- **Erin C. Kust**, girls’ varsity cheerleading assistant coach (fall), due to personal reasons, effective November 16, 2017.
- **Erin C. Kust**, girls’ varsity cheerleading assistant coach (winter), due to personal reasons, effective November 16, 2017.

Appointments

Administration — Approved the following administrative appointment:

- **Dana L. Simile** as coordinator of English language arts for Fox Chapel Area School District, effective date to be determined. Yearly salary was set, prorated, with benefits as per the employment agreement.

Nutrition Center — Ratified the following nutrition center appointment:

- **Jennifer A. Detwiler** as a permanent, part-time (three-hours per day) nutrition center employee in the Fox Chapel Area High School cafeteria. Hourly salary was set with no fringe benefits, effective October 17, 2017. This position is available due to the resignation of **Anita Demme**.

Supplemental Contracts – Athletic — The following athletic supplemental contracts were approved for the 2017-2018 school term: **Bryan J. Deal** – Boys’ Assistant Basketball Coach – MS and **Shelley A. Zottola** – Girls’ Varsity Cheerleading Assistant Coach (Winter).

Leave Replacements

Professional — Ratified the following professional leave replacements:

- **Aimee E. Berardi** as a mid-level science leave replacement teacher at Dorseyville Middle School, effective November 10, 2017-the day after the last day for students for the 2017-2018 school year. Her salary was set, prorated, with benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement. This position is available due to the child-rearing leave of **Kristen Quinlisk**.
- **Meagan M. Dailey** as an elementary leave replacement teacher at Kerr Elementary School, effective November 6, 2017-the day after the last day of school for students for the 2017-2018 school year. Her salary was set, prorated, with benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement. This position is available due to the child-rearing leave of **Megan Glies**.
- **Susanne M. Osche** as a leave replacement school nurse at Kerr Elementary School, effective October 31, 2017-March 23, 2018. Her salary was set, prorated, with benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement. This position is available due to the child-rearing leave of **Natalie Gourley**.
- **Alexis L. Taylor** as an elementary leave replacement teacher at O’Hara Elementary School, effective October 26, 2017-March 9, 2018. Her salary was set, prorated, with benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement. This position is available due to the medical leave of **Beth Ivins**.

Volunteers – Athletic — The following athletic volunteers were ratified, effective October 4, 2017: **Alfred Beeken** – Boys’ Freshman Basketball and **Timothy Lang** – Boys’ Freshman Basketball.

Election of District Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent

Resolution – Election of District Superintendent — The election of **Gene Freeman**, Ed.D., to the position of district superintendent of the Fox Chapel Area School District for a five-year term commencing on July 1, 2018, and in accord with the agreement presented at the meeting, was approved.

Resolution – Election of Deputy Superintendent — The election of **David P. McCommons**, Ed.D., to the position of deputy superintendent of the Fox Chapel Area School District for a five-year term commencing on July 1, 2018, and in accord with the agreement presented at the meeting, was approved.

Settlement

Personnel Matter — Approved resolution of personnel matter as presented.

Operations/Cooperative Services

Change Orders – Dorseyville Middle School Alterations Project — Approved change orders PC-006, PC-007, EC-006, EC-007, EC-008, EC-009, and EC-010 at a total cost of \$6,551.76 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.

Change Order – O’Hara Elementary School Alterations Project — Approved change order EC-001, at a cost of \$897.00 for the O’Hara Elementary School alterations project pending PDE approval of Plancon Part I. This change order was reviewed and approved by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority Board.

Change Orders – Fairview Elementary School Alterations Project — Approved change orders GC-001, GC-002, GC-003, GC-004, GC-005, GC-006, PC-001, PC-002, EC-001, and EC-002, at a total cost of \$26,956.30 for the Fairview Elementary School alterations project. These change orders were reviewed and approved by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority Board.

Resolution 2017-14 – Pursuant to Act 34 of 1973 Kerr Elementary School Project — Approved resolution 2017-14 authorizing the public hearing to review the Kerr Elementary School project; authorizing the advertising of the public hearing; and authorizing the maximum building cost of \$16,313,244.00, and maximum project cost of \$21,158,225.00.

Resolution 2017-15 – Small Games of Chance — Approved resolution 2017-15 recognizing certain civic and service associations for the purpose of conducting small games of chance.

Safety Incentive Program — Approved the Fox Chapel Area School District safety incentive program for the period January 1, 2018, through May 31, 2018, for district employees at an estimated cost of \$7,000.00.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT — The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 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: Timothy A. Mahoney (412/967-2435)
Address: Fox Chapel Area School District, 611 Field Club Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238*