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The Fairfield Area School Board met on Monday evening, June 26, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the district boardroom for a regular Board Meeting. Prior to the Board meeting there was an executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues. The following members were in attendance, Mrs. Jennifer Holz, presiding; Mrs. Lauren Clark, Mr. Matthew DeGennaro, Mrs. Lashay Kalathas, Mr. Jack Liller, Mrs. Candace Ferguson- Miller, Mr. Tedd Sayres, and Mrs. Lisa Sturges. . Mrs. Kelly Christiano, Board Member, was absent. Also present were Mr. Thomas Haupt, Superintendent; Mrs. Sonja Brunner, Assistant to the Superintendent for Curriculum, Special Education & Student Services; Mr. Tim Stanton, Business Manager; Ms. Nicole Steele, Technology Director; and Attorney Gareth Pahowka, Solicitor.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Matthew DeGennaro to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting May 22, 2023 and Board Study Session June 12, 2023. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Lauren Clark. Motion carried (8-0).

**Presentations/Reports:**

The following individuals are responsible for updating the board on the current operations of their supervised areas. If you would like their full report, please follow this link:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLEPDJP9udALGyQSlPPBEbCvcT-62mW2sY

* Superintendent
* Assistant to the Superintendent
* Business Manager
* District Technology Coordinator

**Public Comment** **Agenda Items** – There was no public comment concerning agenda items.

**Consent Agenda**

Background: The following routine operational matters are presented for action by the Board of School Directors. Items that require special attention may be removed from the consent agenda upon request of a Board member.

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Mr. Jack Liller requested clarification on agenda items A and B.

Mrs. Lisa Sturges requested clarification on agenda item L.

Mrs. Lashay Kalathas requested clarification on agenda item E.

Mrs. Candace Miller requested agenda item II to be removed from the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Jack Liller to approve the consent agenda, items A through MM with agenda item II removed, the motion was seconded by Mr. Matthew DeGennaro. Motion carried (8-0).

**Administrative**

**Actions**

A. Approved an *Independent Student Contract* for Delaney Gass, for German III, during the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year.

B. Approved an *Independent Student Contract* for Alaina Redding, for German III, during the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year.

**Budget** C. Approved expenditures and transfers of the General Fund in the amount of $5,831,840.46; Food Service in the amount of $34,715.74; Student Activity Fund in the amount of $3,059.43: and Payroll Fund in the amount of $921,763.30 for total expenditures and transfers of $6,791,378.93 for the period of May 12, 2023 through June 19, 2023.

D. Approved bank reconciliations, as presented.

E. Adopted the 2023-2024 final budget with a millage rate of 11.5757, which represents a 4% increase, for total revenues of $21,204,126 and expenditures totaling $22,809,555.

F. Authorized Stock and Leader, representing the Fairfield Area School District, to sign the Stipulation of Value of ISP Minerals for Parcel Number 18A17-0001A-000 for an assessed value of $9,625,000.

Background: This is a negotiated settlement between the property owner, County, Township, and School District that revises the assessed value of the property.

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G. Approved a letter of agreement between TrueNorth Wellness Services and Fairfield Area School District for Student Assistance Program (SAP) School-Based Clinical Services effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

H. Approved a letter of agreement between TrueNorth Wellness Services and Fairfield Area School District for Student Assistance Program (SAP) Drug and Alcohol Liaison Services effective August 20, 2023 through August 20, 2024.

I. Approved a letter of agreement between TrueNorth Wellness Services and Fairfield Area School District for one therapist to provide Outpatient Therapy Services within the district effective August 2, 2023 through August 2, 2024.

J. Approved an Educational Consultant Agreement with Christine Denayer for speech/language services, assessments, and training effective August 23, 2023 through May 31, 2024.

K. Approved an Educational Consultant Agreement with Jamie   
Yetzer for speech/language services, assessments, and training effective August 23, 2023 through May 31, 2024.

L. Approved a service agreement with Jennifer Baney, LPC dba: Songbird Counseling Services to provide services within the Fairfield Area School District August 23, 2023 through May 31, 2024.

M. Approved a letter of agreement with The Meadows Psychiatric Center to facilitate continuity of care when serving individuals enrolled in Fairfield Area School District for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school year.

N. Approved an agreement between Merakey Pennsylvania and Fairfield Area School District to provide in-district therapeutic services to students with Autism and/or Emotional Disturbances effective August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024.

O. Approved a Provider Agreement with AndVenture, LLC dba Aveanna Healthcare, to provide substitute healthcare services to Fairfield Area School District July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

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P. Approved a Provider Agreement with Pediatric Services of America, LLC dba Aveanna Healthcare, to provide substitute healthcare services to Fairfield Area School District July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Q. Adjusted meal prices in accordance with the following schedule for the 2023-2024 school year.

2022-2023 2023-2024

Breakfast Elementary 1.45 1.55

Breakfast MS/HS 1.55 1.65

Breakfast Adults 2.00 2.10

Lunch Elementary 2.75 2.85

Lunch MS/HS 2.95 3.05

Lunch Adults 4.00 4.10

Background: Under the USDA Paid Lunch Equity Compliance regulations there are regulations that govern what the minimum student meal prices have to be set at. The regulations state if a district has a negative fund balance in their Food Service account, which Fairfield does, then the district needs to look at the difference between the Federal reimbursement for a free meal and the Federal reimbursement of a paid meal ($3.56 for lunch and $1.76 for breakfast). If the district is charging paid students less than the above difference, then the district needs to increase price by 2% plus the CPI of All Urban Consumers (the index for food away from home). The CPI is 8.3% plus the 2% would be an increase of 10.3% to meal prices. However, the regulations also state to follow compliance with this section not to increase the prices more than ten cents. In all cases the 10 cents is the lower figure in the calculations. To be in compliance, the district needs to increase all meal prices by ten cents for the start of the 2023-2024 school year.

**Personnel**

R. Approved a request from employee #000339 for childbearing leave beginning August 18 through Oct 1, 2023.

S. Accepted the resignation of Trudy Patterson, Elementary Café Aide, effective June 1, 2023.

T. Accepted the resignation of Kathryn White, MS/HS Special Education Aide (ILS) effective May 31, 2023.

U. Accepted the resignation of Courtney Boehs, Elementary Special Education Aide (ILS) effective May 31, 2023.

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V. Accepted the resignation of Chelsey Holt, Elementary Special Education Teacher, Autism Support, effective August 17, 2023.

W. Approved the employment of Corey M. Burke as a full-time Instructional Technology Assistant at an annual salary of $42,000, prorated, effective June 19, 2023.

X. Approved the employment of Brandon N. Lingenfelter as a full-time High School Physical Education Teacher effective August 18, 2023 with salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement pending all certification and paperwork is complete. Bachelors - Step 1 / $53,773.

Y. Approved the employment of Heather E. Redding as a full-time Elementary School Special Education Teacher (ILS) effective August 18, 2023 with salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement pending all certification and paperwork is complete. Bachelors - Step 1 / $53,773.

Z. Approved the employment of Danielle R. Simchick as a full-time Elementary Spanish Teacher effective August 18, 2023 with salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement pending all certification and paperwork is complete. Masters 27 - Step 7 / $66,167

AA. Approved the employment of Tammy E. Heitmuller as a part-time elementary classroom aide K-4 at $13.50 per hour effective August 21, 2023.

BB. Approved the addition of Catherine Kichler to the Support Staff Sub List for the 2023-2024 school year.

CC. Accepted the resignation of Michael A. Ball, HS Head Varsity Girls’ Track Coach effective immediately.

DD. Accepted the resignation of Jake Johnson, HS Head Varsity Football Coach, effective immediately.

EE. Approved support staff increases for the 2023-2024 fiscal year at a rate of 2.6% effective July 1, 2023.

FF. Approved support staff health insurance premium share at a rate of 7% for the 2023-2024 fiscal year effective July 1, 2023.

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GG. Approved a 2.3% increase for Sonja Brunner, Ass’t to the Superintendent, effective July 1, 2023.

HH. Adopted the Superintendent’s annual performance assessment, rated as distinguished in 2022-2023, and increase his salary by 2.5%, effective July 1, 2023, as provided in Section 5(A)(2) of the Employment Contract.

II. Added a market increase to the Superintendent’s salary effective July 1, 2023, as provided in Section 5(A)(4) of the Employment Contract, for a total salary of $166,416.

JJ. Approved Chelsey Holt for ESY (Extended School Year) in the Elementary Autism Support Classroom throughout the summer 2023, not to exceed 60 hours of service.

KK. Approved Jared Donmoyer for ESY (Extended School Year) in the Elementary Autism Support Classroom throughout the summer 2023, not to exceed 60 hours of service.

**Policy** LL. Approved Policy 008, Table of Organization, on a first reading.

MM. Approved the revisions to Board Policy 249, Bullying / Cyberbullying, on a second reading.

A motion was made by Mrs. Candace Ferguson-Miller for approval of agenda item II; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Lauren Clark. Motion carried (7-1).

**Other Action Items:**

A motion was made by Mr. Jack Liller to appoint Mrs. Lashay Kalathas as Board Treasurer, the motion was seconded by Mrs. Lauren Clark. Motion carried (8-0).

A.Board Treasurer Appointment

Motion**:** Move to appoint a treasurer for a one-year term beginning July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Background: This is a yearly request as per Pennsylvania School Code 24 PS 4-404.

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Mrs. Jennifer Holz welcomed the new staff that were present at the Board meeting.

**Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

**Adjournment**

All were in favor following a motion by Mr. Tedd Sayres and a second by Mr. Matthew DeGennaro to adjourn the Regular Board meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mrs. Jennifer Holz Mr. Tim Stanton

President Board Recording Secretary

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