

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

The regular meeting of the Freeport Area School District Board of School Directors scheduled for 7:30 pm in the Audion of the Freeport Area High School, 625 South Pike Road, Sarver, Pennsylvania, was called to order by Mr. Adam Toncini, Board President, at 7:41 p.m.

Roll call:

Ms. Bollinger	Present
Ms. Davies	Present
Mr. Haven	Present
Mr. Huth	Present
Dr. Prazenica	Present
Mr. Risch	Present
Mr. Selinger	Present
Mr. Toncini	Present
Ms. Zembrzuski	Present

Administrators present were Mr. Magness, Superintendent; Mr. Robb, Program Director; and Mr. Walker, Director of Finance and Operations. Also participating was District solicitor Mr. Matthew Hoffman.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Toncini requested a motion to add *Personnel* item 3.i., as permitted under Section 712.1(c) of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act:

3.i. Action on accepting the attached resignation of Mark L. Ortego, Teacher, effective September 29, 2023.

It was moved by Mr. Risch, and seconded by Mr. Selinger, to add *Personnel* item 3.i. to the agenda, as read. Motion carried unanimously on the motion to add the read-in item to the agenda.

Mr. Toncini welcomed members of the public. He solicited public comment on the items on the posted agenda and the read-in item. No public comments were offered.

Reports

1. It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Mr. Huth, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on August 2, 2023 and the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 9, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.
2. The Board Secretary reported that the Board met as follows since the last report to the Board at the Regular Meeting on August 9, 2023: The Board's Building Committee met for an information session on August 21, 2023. The Board met in Executive Session on September 6, 2023, to discuss Safety and Security,

Personnel, Legal, and Confidential Student Matters. The Board held a Committee Meeting on September 6, 2023. The Board met in Executive Session on September 13, to discuss Personnel, Real Estate, and Confidential Student Matters.

3. Mr. Toncini reported at the Board's September 6, 2023, Committee Meeting that the Buffalo Elementary School Open House held earlier in the week went well, and he encouraged the other School Directors to attend the open houses.
4. Mr. Huth reported that Lenape Technical School's joint operating committee would meet the following week.
5. Dr. Prazenica reported that the Armstrong Indiana (ARIN) Intermediate Unit's board would meet the following week.
6. Mr. Selinger reported for the Athletics Committee that Fall sports were going well.
7. Mr. Haven reported that the Building Committee would hold an information session with HHS DR to determine exact costs of proposed renovations and then report that information to the Board.
8. Ms. Bollinger reported that the Freeport Area School District Foundation is in the final stages of planning for its September 17, 2023, Golf Outing fundraiser. There will be 18 groups of golfers, including one from The Nutrition Group. ESS and Kurtz Brothers sponsored tees for the Outing. Money raised by the Outing goes toward classroom grants. Ms. Bollinger asked anyone interested in donating to contact her.
9. The Student School Board Members presented their report to the Board.
10. The Board recognized retired teacher Mr. Mark Wyant for his thirty-five years of service to the District.

Personnel

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Ms. Bollinger,

- a. To accept the resignation of Lawana J. Porter, Head Custodian, effective December 29, 2023.
- b. To approve the employment of Kari A. Freshcorn as a part-time Cafeteria Worker, at an hourly wage rate of \$12.75, effective September 14, 2023, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.
- c. To approve the employment of Carmen B. Aponte as a part-time Cafeteria Worker, at an hourly wage rate of \$12.75, effective September 14, 2023,

and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.

- d. To approve the employment of Michele M. Ciani as an Educational Assistant for the 2023-2024 school year, at an hourly wage rate of \$14.00, effective September 28, 2023, and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.
- e. To approve the employment of the paid and volunteer individuals listed on the attachment for the District's Athletics Programs during the 2023-2024 school year, with salaries in accordance with contracted terms of remuneration approved by the Board and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.
- f. To approve the employment of the paid and volunteer individuals listed on the attachment for the District's Extracurricular Programs during the 2023-2024 school year, with salaries in accordance with contracted terms of remuneration approved by the Board and contingent on satisfactory completion of all pre-employment requirements.
- g. To approve the employment of the individuals listed on the attachment as Professional Learning Mentors for the 2023-2024 school year, with salaries in accordance with contracted terms of remuneration approved by the Board.
- h. To approve the attached Memorandum of Agreement with the Freeport Education Association and Mark L. Ortego.
- i. To accept the attached resignation of Mark L. Ortego, Teacher, effective September 29, 2023.

Motion carried unanimously, with Mr. Haven *abstaining* from the vote on Personnel item 3.d.

Curriculum and Technology

- a. **TABLED:** To approve the dual enrollment of Freeport Area High School students in the Allegheny County Fire Academy Fire Service Training Program's Entry Level Fire Training Elective Class during the 2023-2024 school year, at no cost to the District, as described on the attachment.

Athletics and Activities

It was moved by Mr. Risch, and seconded by Dr. Prazenica,

- a. To approve the participation of Donald W. Dell, Jr., Special Services Coordinator, in the Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE)

Conference, to be held on November 8-10, 2023, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, at a cost to the District of \$875.04.

- b. To approve the attached agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for student participation in the Adopt-a-Highway Program during the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years, at no cost to the District.

Motion carried unanimously.

Policy

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Ms. Bollinger,

- a. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 006 (Meetings).
- b. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 216.1 (Supplemental Discipline Records).
- c. To approve the adoption of the attached revised School Board Policy No. 251 (Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability).

Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

It was moved by Mr. Haven, and seconded by Dr. Prazenica [*Other Business item 7.h. excluded, for a separate motion and vote*],

- a. To cast the District's vote for the following candidates for 2024 Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) Officers: Allison Mathis, for a 1-year term as President; Sabrina Backer for a 1-year term as Vice President; Karen Beck Pooley for a 3-year term as Treasurer; Marsha Pleta for a 3-year term as Western Zone Representative; and for the following PSBA Insurance Trust Trustees for a 3-year term: Marianne Neel and Michael Faccineto.
- b. To approve the attached contract for educational services with Armstrong School District for the 2023-2024 school year.
- c. To approve the attached contract for special education learning support services with Armstrong School District for the 2023-2024 school year.
- d. **TABLED:** To approve the attached Agreement with Wesley Family Services for educational services, which may be provided to District resident students during the 2023 2024 school year, at an hourly rate not to exceed [\$29].

- e. To approve the enrollment of a resident student as a 4010-funded student at The Watson Institute Friendship Academy (WIFA) during the 2023-2024 school year, in accordance with the student's IEP, at a cost to the District of \$28,466.80 (40% of WIFA's \$58,667 annual tuition), to be paid from the District's Pennsylvania state subsidy.
- f. To approve the attached agreement with Southwood Psychiatric Hospital for academic tutoring services to be provided during the 2023-2024 school year at a daily rate of \$90.
- g. To accept the attached proposal from Florida Consulting LLC, for roof assessment services to be performed during the 2023-2024 school year, at a cost to the District of \$5,000.
- i. To approve the attached Change Order EC-1 to the Freeport Area High School Boiler, Electric Service & Emergency Generator Project Electrical Construction Agreement with Right Electric, Inc., dated October 14, 2022, for an increased cost in the contract sum of \$16,169.44, including an estimated cost of \$1,200 for gas line mechanicals.
- j. To approve the attached Change Order EC-2 to the Freeport Area High School Boiler, Electric Service & Emergency Generator Project Electrical Construction Agreement with Right Electric, Inc., dated October 14, 2022, for an increased cost in the contract sum of \$3,551.89, including an estimated cost of \$500 for gas line mechanicals.
- k. To approve the attached Lease Agreement with Pitney Bowes Global Financial Services, LLC, for the lease of digital postage metering equipment at a cost of \$156.87 per month for a term of 60 months.
- l. To accept the attached Marcia Brenner Associates quote for a license to continue to use its Report Creator Plugin for PowerSchool, at an annual maintenance fee cost of \$972.
- m. To approve the purchase of the CrisisGo Safety iResponse solution described on the attachment at a cost of \$2,620.
- n. To accept the DonorsChoose.org donation for the Buffalo Elementary School Project: "Yoga in the Classrooms" described on the attachment (Total Project Cost \$1,115.85).
- o. To accept donations in memory of Edward Stiller totaling \$395 to be used for the District's autistic support program.
- p. To approve a Stipulated Adjudication for Student A, as recommended by Administration.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Dr. Prazenica, and seconded by Mr. Risch,

- h. **TO TABLE** a motion to accept the attached proposal from GreenCore LLC, for the replacement of the roof of a salt bin storage building, at a cost of \$12,892.02.

Roll call vote requested:

Ms. Bollinger	No
Ms. Davies	Yes
Mr. Haven	No
Mr. Huth	No
Dr. Prazenica	Yes
Mr. Risch	Yes
Mr. Selinger	No
Mr. Toncini	No
Ms. Zembrzuski	No

The motion *TO TABLE* the motion did not carry, on a vote of three (3) to six (6).

It was moved by Mr. Huth, and seconded by Mr. Haven,

- h. To accept the attached proposal from GreenCore LLC, for the replacement of the roof of a salt bin storage building, at a cost of \$12,892.02.

Roll call vote requested:

Ms. Bollinger	Yes
Ms. Davies	No
Mr. Haven	Yes
Mr. Huth	Yes
Dr. Prazenica	No
Mr. Risch	No
Mr. Selinger	Yes
Mr. Toncini	Yes
Ms. Zembrzuski	Yes

The motion carried on a vote of six (6) to three (3).

Finance

Mr. Walker provided an overview of the attached Finance Report.

It was moved by Dr. Prazenica, and seconded by Mr. Huth,

- a. To approve the attached August 2023 financial reports.
- b. To approve the bills for payment listed on the attachments.

Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meetings

Mr. Toncini announced that the Board would hold a Committee Meeting on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 7:30 pm in the High School Audion and a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 7:30 pm in the High School Audion.

Comments from the Public

Sylvia Maxwell of Buffalo Township commented on Custodian resignations, salt bin quotes, the location of Homecoming, the school Dress Code, and the weight of student backpacks.

James Swartz of Freeport Borough commented on fire safety courses, roof assessment services, salt bin quotes, and generator quotes.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Risch, and seconded by Ms. Davies, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Toncini declared the meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

/s/ Adam M. Toncini
Board President

/s/ Mary Dobransky
Board Secretary