



FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Board Room  
September 21, 2011

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I. The September 21, 2011 Board Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board was held in the Board Room of the Elementary School, 100 Dartmouth Avenue, Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The Meeting was called to order by Mr. Banks at 6:10 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Notice was given that the Meeting of the Ferndale Area School Board conducted in the Board Room will be tape recorded and entry constitutes consent to the taping of any individual who comments.

III. Roll Call: Present: Susan Bailey, Ridley Banks, Greg Blue, Sandra Chobany, Melissa Garman, Edward Jones, Wayne Meekins, Barbara Penna, and Stephen Thompson. Absent: None.

Others in attendance were Carole Kakabar, William Brotz, John Kowal, Brian McDermott, Administrators; Robert Boyle, At-Risk Coordinator; Attorney David Novak, Solicitor; Susan Layton, Stephanie Mino, Teachers; Judith Virgin, School Nurse; Gabby Kull, Student; Tim Olszewsky, Ferndale Area Club Hockey Team; Scott Miles, Wrestling Coach; Al Cooper, Resident; Patricia Craig, Recording Secretary.

IBD-05-09/11 The Student Board Representatives for the 2011-2012 school year are Ashlee Grow, Senior and Elizabeth Chobany, Junior. Both were present.

IV. Hearing of Citizens/Ferndale Area Education Association

IBD-05-09/11A Al Cooper addressed the Board regarding consolidation and cyber school.

IBD-05-09/11B Scott Miles addressed the Board regarding the sale of the wrestling mat.

V. Committees Agenda

1. Board

BD-05-09/11 Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve the September 21, 2011 Board Meeting Consent Agenda items (BD-06-09/11 through ST-08-09/11).

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BD-06-09/11

Approve the Minutes of the August 17, 2011 Board Meeting, as presented.

IBD-07-09/11

An invitation was extended to all School Board Members to attend the High School Open House from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on September 27, 2011 and the Elementary Open House from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on September 28, 2011 (Grades K4-2) and September 29, 2011 (Grades 3-6).

BG-04-09/11

Approve the request of the Cambria County Board of Elections Office to use the Ferndale Area Junior-Senior High School as a polling location for Ferndale Borough No. 2 Municipal Election on November 8, 2011 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

BG-05-09/11

Approve the request of the Ferndale Pee Wee Competition Cheerleading Squad (Responsible Officer - Barbara Jones ) to use the Junior High Gymnasium and mats for practices from September 23, 2011 through December 30, 2011, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., providing that no conflicts occur with District programs. (Received insurance and completed use of facilities form certifying compliance with clearance requirements.) (Days switched from previous approval.)

E-06-09/11

Renew the Cooperative Agreement between St. Francis University and Ferndale Area School District for the College in the High School Academic Program (Dual Enrollment) for the 2011-12 academic year.

IE-10-09/11

Recognized the District's profile of services FASD received from Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 for 2010-11 at a District contribution of \$426.66.

F-04-09/11

Approve the August Treasurer's Report, as presented.

F-05-09/11

Approve the General Fund and Cafeteria Bills, as presented.

IF-03-09/11

Received a letter from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania advising Ferndale Area School District that the Department's determination of the status of our Local Education Agency's (LEA) compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for federal fiscal year 2009 has met requirements of Part B of IDEA. The Department commends Ferndale Area School District for the hard work being done to deliver high quality programs to students with disabilities.

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IF-04-09/11

Received a letter from the Pennsylvania Department of Education informing us that Ferndale Area School District's 2011-12 Consolidated Federal Programs Application is substantially approved. An approval letter will be forwarded to us when the eGrant Application receives final approval.

IF-05-09/11

Receipts and disbursements.

P-27-09/11

Approve Courtney Amrhein, Heather Dysinger, Michael Falchek, Courtney Kaminski, Maeve Koshute, Joseph Majcher, Sherry Martin, Brittini McKolosky, Dinah Mettetal, Cassandra Rizzo, Cortney Skelly, Sarah Smojice, Barbara Stager, Alan Tresnicky II, Katie Vann, Anthony Wicks, and Katie Wise to the substitute teachers list.

P-28-09/11

Approve Deborah Lavelly and Megan Muir to the substitute support staff list.

ST-08-09/11

Approve interested juniors and seniors attendance at the Career Fair at the Pasquerilla Conference Center to explore post-secondary options on September 20, 2011. Cost: Transportation: \$87.41. (District)

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Blue, Chobany, Garman, Jones, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

IBD-08-09/11

Signatories confirming the contract agreement between Ferndale Area School District and Ferndale Area Education Association, September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2014.

IBD-06-09/11

Tim Olszewsky, Ferndale Area Club Hockey Team, addressed the Board concerning funding and all boosters working together.

2.

Buildings and Grounds

BG-06-09/11

Mr. Blue made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Chobany, to approve the replacement of trees on Ferndale Avenue/Summit Avenue by Lichtenfels Nursery, at a cost not to exceed \$2,700. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Blue, Chobany, Garman, Jones, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

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Cafeteria

None.

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4. Education

E-07-09/11

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve participation in the ACRP In-School Suspension Program at the ACRP Alternative School Site at 317 Power Street at a cost of \$60.00 per day for a maximum of 4 students per day as needed. Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Blue, Chobany, Garman, Jones, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

E-08-09/11

Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve renewing an agreement with University of Pittsburgh's Tri-State Area School Study Council for the following services, at a cost of \$2,250.00 to include three days of counseling with the University:

- a. Annual review of progress toward goals of the Strategic Plan;
- b. Monitor progress toward a Standards Aligned Curriculum (SAS);
- c. Monitor characteristics of a High Performance School System.

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Blue, Chobany, Garman, Jones, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

IE-11-09/11

Highlights of the Joint Operating Committee - Ridley Banks/Barbara Penna.

IE-12-09/11

Student Board Representatives Report.

IE-13-09/11

Highlights  
 -- Elementary - William Brotz  
 -- High School - Brian McDermott

5. Finance

None.

The Board went into an Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. for personnel and a legal matter. The Executive Session ended at 8:38 p.m.

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Mr. Meekins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to amend the agenda and add the following motions:

P-41-09/11 Approve the School Nurse work up to 8 additional hours per week for the purpose of new school year documentation and medical reports ending November 9, 2011, subject to the discretion of the Superintendent.  
 (Hourly rate)

ST-10-09/11 Approve the distribution of \$2,500 to the Ferndale Area Club Hockey Team for the 2011-2012 school year. The funds can only be used to: first, purchase insurance and after payment of insurance, the remainder may be used to pay transportation expenses with the district's bus contractor, with the total distribution for insurance and transportation not to exceed an aggregate of \$2,500, with the stipulation that proof of insurance is provided in the form of a declaration page showing the premiums were paid.

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

6. Personnel

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Blue, to approve P-29-09/11 through P-41-09/11.

Approve the following retirement resignations:

P-29-09/11 Beverly Roberts, Learning Support Aide, effective January 13, 2012;

P-30-09/11 Barbara Wissinger, High School Cook, effective February 29, 2012;

P-31-09/11 Mary Ann Burgess, High School Cook, effective at the end of the 2011-12 school year;

P-32-09/11 Mary Sefcik, High School Dishwasher, effective at the end of the 2011-12 school year;

P-33-09/11 Marjorie Pile, First Grade Teacher, effective June 29, 2012;

P-34-09/11 Judith Walsh, First Grade Teacher, effective June 29, 2012.

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P-35-09/11

Post and/or advertise for the following positions at an appropriate time:

- Elementary Teacher(s)
- Learning Support Aide
- High School Cooks
- High School Dishwasher
- Substitute Cooks, Dishwashers, and Kitchen Utility Worker

P-36-09/11

Approve the request of Christa Harper, Special Education/English, for a leave of absence starting October 17, 2011, returning approximately January 23, 2012.

P-37-09/11

Approve Emily Cartwright as a long-term substitute Secondary Special Education/ English teacher for Christa Harper, effective October 10, 2011.

P-38-09/11

Grant tenure to Scott Beckner, Fifth Grade Teacher; Christine Eash, Fourth Grade Teacher, Janice Koontz, Chemistry; Ronald Lasko, Social Studies; and Lisa Rivard, English Teacher. They have completed three years of satisfactory service, the Induction Program, and have earned the status of permanent employment within the Ferndale Area School District on a regular basis.

P-39-09/11

Employ Lori McGough as an Elementary Dishwasher, with a at a stipend of \$7.49 per hour, effective September 22, 2011. (90 days probation period up September 14, 2011)

P-40-09/11

Employ Susan Pellow as a Kitchen Utility Person, at a stipend of \$7.49 per hour, effective September 22, 2011. (90 days probation period up September 14, 2011)

P-41-09/11

Approve the School Nurse to work up to 8 additional hours per week for the purpose of new school year documentation and medical reports ending November 9, 2011, subject to the discretion of the Superintendent. (Hourly rate)

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Blue, Chobany, Garman, Jones, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

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7. Student Activities

Mrs. Penna made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meekins, to approve ST-09-09/11 and ST-10-09/11.

ST-09-09/11 Approve the Ferndale Area Junior/Senior High School Student Activities and Athletics General Ledger Report, as submitted by Brian McDermott, High School Principal.

ST-10-09/11 Approve the distribution of \$2,500 to the Ferndale Area Club Hockey Team for the 2011-2012 school year. The funds can only be used to: first, purchase insurance and after payment of insurance, the remainder may be used to pay transportation expenses with the district's bus contractor, with the total distribution for insurance and transportation not to exceed an aggregate of \$2,500, with the stipulation that proof of insurance is provided in the form of a declaration page showing the premiums were paid.

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Blue, Chobany, Garman, Jones, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

8. Workshops/Conferences

Mr. Blue made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Penna, to approve the following workshops/conferences:

W-03-09/11 Judith Virgin, School Nurse; *Diabetic School Nurse Workshop* at Seven Springs on September 16, 2011. Cost: Registration: \$65.00. Substitute: \$80.00. Travel: \$45.00. Total Cost: \$190.00. (Access)

W-04-09/11 Latrace Dixon, Special Education Teacher; Jonathan Freidhoff, Music Teacher; Crystal Keim, Mathematics Teacher; *Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 New Teacher Induction* in Ebensburg on October 25, 2011, January 19, 2012; and in Altoona on November 16, 2011, March 8, 2012, March 26, 2012. Cost: Registration for each: \$150.00. Substitutes for three for five days: \$1,200.00. Total Cost: \$1,650.00. (District)

W-05-09/11 Jessica Taranto, Sixth Grade Teacher; *Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 New Teacher Induction* in Ebensburg on October 26, 2011, January 20, 2012; and in Altoona on November 17, 2011, March 15, 2012, March 27, 2012. Cost: Registration: \$150.00. Substitute for five days: \$400.00. Total Cost: \$550.00. (District)

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W-06-09/11

B. Wayne Lohr, State and Federal Programs Coordinator; *PDE Title I Improving School Performance Conference* in Pittsburgh on January 29 - February 1, 2012. Cost: Registration: \$350.00. Lodging: \$350.00. Meals: \$50.00. Travel: \$82.00. Total Cost: \$832.00. (Title I)

W-07-09/11

B. Wayne Lohr, State and Federal Programs Coordinator; *PAFPC/PDE Annual Conference* in Hershey on March 25 - 28, 2012. Cost: Registration: \$350.00. Lodging: \$350.00. Meals: \$50.00. Travel: \$125.00. Total Cost: \$875.00. (Title I)

Record vote for the motion: Bailey, Banks, Blue, Chobany, Garman, Jones, Meekins, Penna, and Thompson. Against the motion: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

VI. Adjournment

Mr. Jones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Blue, to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. All were in favor.