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The Fairfield Area School Board met on Monday evening, January 10, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the district boardroom for a regular Board Meeting. The following members were in attendance: Mrs. Jennifer Holz, Presiding; Mrs. Kelly Christiano, Mrs. Lauren Clark, Mr. Matthew DeGennaro, Mrs. Lashay Kalathas, Mr. Jack Liller, Mrs. Candace Ferguson-Miller and Mr. Ted Sayers. Mr. Richard Phillip was absent. Also present were Dr. Larry Redding, Interim Superintendent; Mr. Thomas Weaver, Business Manager; Mr. Kaleb Crawford, Coordinator of Tech Services, Mr. Brian McDowell, HS Principal, Mr. Justin Hoffacker, MS Principal Ms. Collen Rebert, Elem Principal, Mr. Dan Watkins, Special Ed Supervisor, Mr. William Mooney, Building and Grounds Supervisor, and School Nurse, Kristi Ebaugh.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Mrs. Clark and seconded by Mr. Liller to approve the December 6, 2021 Reorganization meeting minutes and the December 6, 2021 regular board meeting minutes and were unanimously approved.

**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
* Business Manager – Budget / Cafeteria
* Principals
* Special Education Supervisor
* Athletic Director
* Building & Grounds Supervisor
* Technology Coordinator
* Safety Coordinator (once a month) -
* Student Representatives –

**Public Comment –Agenda Items**—None

**Consent Agenda**

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. Mr. DeGennaro made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Mrs. Christiano seconded the motion that was unanimously approved by the board. (8-0)

**Administrative**

**Actions** A. Approved a Field Trip Request from FCCLA (Family, Career, Community Leaders of America) and Advisor, Susan Donaldson, to travel to the FCCLA State Leadership Conference in Seven Springs, PA, March 21-23, 2022.

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B. Approved a Field Trip Request from FFA (Future Farmers of America) and Advisor, Jennifer Fleener, to travel to the Agriculture Education Establishes Success Conference in Harrisburg, PA, February 5-6, 2022.

**Budget** C. Approved the addition of the following individuals to the van / bus driver list for the 2021-2022 school year. The contractor is noted.

Steven Wrye - Jacoby Transportation

Robert McNeill - Jacoby Transportation

D. Adopted the revised Act 1 resolution indicating the Fairfield Area School District’s intent to not raise taxes by more than the 4.0% adjusted index for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Background: School districts are required by January 31, 2022 to adopt a resolution, if it is their intent to not raise taxes by more than the index. If not, a preliminary budget must be completed and available for public inspection by this date. Making this decision now allows time to complete this process. It is important to note that we will not know Basic Education and other subsidies until late February. For our district the adjusted index is 4.05% or .4452 mills which equates to approximately $401,712 in additional revenue should the Board decide to raise taxes to the index. The resolution is presented in its formality as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. In the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the Board authorized this resolution in January, which allowed us to produce a budget with valid information and time to discuss and process. This authorization allows the district budget timeline to revert to the original timelines, pre Act 1, with a preliminary due in May and final due in June.

**Personnel** E. Accepted a resignation from John T. Hofmann, HS/MS Music-Band Teacher, effective December 10, 2021, and grant permission for the administration to advertise and recommend for hire a full-time HS/MS Music-Band Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year.

F. Accepted a resignation from Shelly J. Wheeler, Elementary Secretary, effective January 21, 2022, and grant permission for the administration to advertise and recommend for hire a full-time Elementary Secretary for the 2021-2022 school year.

G. Accepted a resignation from Connie L. Warner, Second Shift Custodian, effective December 16, 2021, and grant permission for the administration to advertise and recommend for hire a full-time Second Shift Custodian for the 2021-2022 school year.

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H. Accepted a resignation from Ashley Alexander, Elementary Classroom Aide K-4, effective January 14, 2022, and grant permission for the administration to advertise and recommend for hire a part-time Elementary Classroom Aide K-4, for the 2021-2022 school year.

I. Accepted a resignation from Apryl Flohr, head middle school volleyball coach, effective immediately and grant permission for the administration to advertise and recommend for hire a head middle school volleyball coach for the 2021-2022 school year.

J. Approved a request from employee #003077 for medical leave and family medical leave beginning January 3, 2022 through March 2, 2022.

K. Approved a request from employee #002461 for maternity leave and family medical leave beginning February 14, 2022 through the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.

L. Approved the addition of Shelly Wheeler to the Support Staff Substitute List K-12 for the 2021-2022 school year.

**Policy** M. Approved the revisions to Policy 113, Special Education, on a first reading.

N. Approved the revisions to Policy 113.1, Discipline of Students with Disabilities, on a first reading.

O. Approved the revisions to Policy 113.2, Behavior Support, on a first reading.

P. Approved the revisions to Policy 113.3, Screening and Evaluations for Students with Disabilities, on a first reading.

Q. Approved the revisions to Policy 113.4, Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information, on a first reading.

**Other Action Items:**

1. Move to approve the employment of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_as a full-time HS/MS Music – Band Teacher with salary per the Collective Bargaining Agreement effective January 11, 2022 pending all certification and paperwork is complete. (Step )

Item A was pulled from the agenda - No Action was taken on this matter absent a candidate to fill the position.

B. Health & Safety Plan – Discuss and take action to revise the December 8, 2021 Fairfield Health & Safety Plan to reflect changes from the CDC.

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School Nurse Kristi Ebaugh was present to provide the most recent COVID statistics. No Action was taken to amend the plan. However, the administration will be disseminating information to parents via letters and website on proper mitigation efforts to reduce the spread of the virus. Additionally, the Board requested to review information from county health officials as soon as it becomes available to determine any change to the current plan.

C. Elementary Intervention Specialist -Discuss and take action to establish a temporary “Elementary Intervention Specialist” position for a term February 2 – June 30, 2022.

A motion was made by Mrs. Clark to approve the position and was seconded by Mr. DeGennaro and approved by the Board (8-0).

D. Health Room Nurse – Discuss and take action to convert the current “Health Room Nurse” position from part-time to full-time with support staff benefits.

A motion by Mr. Liller to approve the position was seconded by Mrs. Kalathas and approved by the Board (8-0).

E. Technology Assistant – Discuss and take action to activate the position of “Technology Assistant” and post the position for hire beginning February 2022.

A motion by Mr. DeGennaro to approve the position and was seconded by Mr. Sayres and approved by the Board (8-0).

**Other Discussion Items –** (No action to be taken)

Board President, Mrs. Holz, reported that Board member Mr. Phillip was appointed as the PSBA representative and will have a report at the next meeting.

**Public Comment** -

Kris Hagemeyer, a resident of the District, addressed the Board regarding the school health policy as it related to COVID mitigation.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Liller and a second by Mrs. Clark, all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mrs. Jennifer Holtz Mr. Thomas J. Weaver

Board President Board Recording Secretary

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