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 The Fairfield Area School Board met on Monday evening, September 26, 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, Mr. Ted Sayres, and Mrs. Lisa Sturges. Also present were Mr. Thomas Haupt, Superintendent, and Mr. Tim Stanton, Business Manager. Prior to the meeting on September 21, 2022 the Board met in Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters.

**Minutes**

Mr. Ted Sayres made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2022 board meeting and was seconded by Mrs. Lisa Sturges. Motion carried (9-0).

**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

 Mr. Thomas Haupt, Superintendent, recognized the following individuals for Service Awards.

 Chuck Engel – 25 Years of Service

 Regina Lee – 25 Years of Service

 Ken Haines – 20 Years of Service

 Daniel Irwin – 20 Years of Service

 Siri Phelps – 20 Years of Service

 John Ridge – 20 Years of Service

 The district solicitor, Attorney Gareth Pahowka, provided a statement explaining compliance with Title IX which is required of all schools accepting Federal Funds. Transgender students are protected from discrimination under Policy 103 and Title IX because the protected class of “sex” includes gender identity as well as biological gender. Again, Title IX prohibits discrimination based on gender identity. Federal courts in Pennsylvania as well as the United States Supreme Court have already ruled on these issues.

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 Gender identity is a protected class just like race, religion, and national origin. Gender identity is a protected class on the same legal footing as all other protected classes under the civil rights laws. How to comply with Title IX is not a local school board issue but is enforced by the Office of Civil Rights as stated in Federal law.

**Public Comment** **Agenda Items** – There was no public comment

**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.

 A motion was made by Mrs. Kelly Christiano to approve the consent agenda, items A thru H, and was seconded by Mr. Matthew DeGennaro. Motion carried (9-0)

**Administrative**

**Actions** A. Approved the Instructional Hours Resolution for the 2022-2023 school year in accordance with Section 520.1 of the Public School Code, as attached.

 B. Approved an Independent Study Contract request from Carson Murdorf, for Spanish III, during the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year.

**Budget** C. Approved expenditures of the General Fund in the amount of $560,836.96; Food Service Fund in the amount of $25,807.64; Student Activity Fund in the amount of $4,388.52 and Payroll Fund in the amount of $405,321.11 for total expenditures of $996,354.23 for the period from August 18, 2022 through September 16, 2022.

D. Approved bank reconciliations, as presented.

E. Approved a transportation agreement between Fairfield Area School District and Krise Transportation for the 2022-2023 school year, as presented.

F. Approved the addition of the following individual(s) to the van / bus driver list for the 2022-2023 school year. The contractor is noted.

 Felix Castillo-Castillo - Jacoby Transportation

 Suzanne Kuhn - Krise Transportation

 Linda Hagerman (Aide) - Krise Transportation

 Jolene Harrison - Jacoby Transportation

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**Personnel** G. Accepted a resignation from Lauren Kemmer, Speech/Language Pathologist, dated September 8, 2022, effective on or before November 7, 2022.

H. Approved a request for medical leave, followed by FMLA, from employee # 000497, effective August 8, 2022 through July 28, 2023.

 **Public Comment**

 Mr. Jack Liller requested the district review the student dress code policy and if needed update the handbook.

 Seven individuals made statements to the Board regarding gender identity and the use of bathrooms.

 Prior to adjournment, Mrs. Candace Ferguson-Miller requested the Board have an Executive Session. After adjournment, the Board adjourned into Executive Session to discuss legal matters.

**Adjournment**

 All were in favor following a motion by Mrs. Kelly Christiano and a second by Mr. Matthew DeGennaro to adjourn the General Board meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mrs. Jennifer Holz Mr. Tim Stanton

Board President Board Recording Secretary

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