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The Fairfield Area School Board met on Monday evening, September 28, 2020 at 7:02 p.m. via Zoom meeting. The following members were in attendance: Mrs. Marcy Van Metre, Presiding; Mr. Greg Murray, Mr. David Millstein, Mr. Earl Shutt, Mr. Josh Laird, Mrs. Lashay Kalathas, Mrs. Lauren Clark, Mrs. Rhonda Myers, and Mrs. Jennifer Holz. Also present were Mr. Michael Adamek, Superintendent; Mrs. Amy Simmons, Business Manager; Mr. Nathan Makar, Coordinator of Computer Services and Technology; Mr. Dan Watkins, Special Education Supervisor; Mr. Brian McDowell, High School Principal; Mrs. Patti Weber, Middle School Principal; Mrs. Barb Richwine, Elementary Principal, and Mr. William Mooney, Building and Grounds Supervisor.

**Minutes**

Approved the minutes of the September 14, 2020 regular Board Meeting on a motion as made by Mrs. Myers and seconded by Mrs. Van Metre. A roll call vote was taken with all board members casting assenting votes. Motion carries 9-0.

**Public Comment** – **Agenda Items** (3 min. each / 30 min. max)

Mr. Jack Liller, Fairfield PA, made a public comment about the possibility of live streaming our athletic events via the internet so that all families and community members can watch. He discussed how other institutions use LiveBarn and that it would cost families only $14 a month.

**Presentations/Reports**

Mrs. Simmons, Business Manager, reported that the business office has been busy working on the Skyward conversion. We work daily to make sure transportation and food service are running smoothly. Food service has been distributing 30 or 40 lunches per day except for last Friday, it was a slow day, 6 lunches were picked up. Transportation is running smoothly, we do have some issues with timing but that is due to less kids on the buses. The auditors will be here October 5th to work on site.

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Mr. McDowell, High School Principal, reported that the high school is moving along, we did do SAT testing last Wednesday. We offer the test once in the fall and once in the spring. The PSAT will be offered in October. ACT tests are also being offered hopefully in the spring. Things at the school are going smoothly and things are going well. Pleased with how the students are doing with the masks and other restrictions due to Covid. We know that there have been a lot of changes this year and the teachers are learning a lot of new technology and he really appreciates the efforts of the teachers. We all are learning new things. Lastly, parents have been calling in and emailing, but they are really trying to find a solution, they have been positive and are working through this. They are willing to have discussions and work thought it.

Mrs. Weber, Middle School Principal, reported that FACE is experiencing a learning curve and we have had some issues. We really appreciate the calls and support we are receiving from the students and parents. We are working with the FACE vendor to get answers when we do have concerns. The teachers are learning a new system and we appreciate your patience and understanding. Parent teacher conferences will be starting October 8th. Picture day is scheduled for October 7 and 8.

Mrs. Richwine, Elementary School Principal, reported that the elementary students are falling into a great routine. It’s good to have them back. Ruth Harvest bags did go home on Thursday and Friday. She and Mrs. Weber, held interviews all day for the building aide positions. She also reported the photo days for students and that more information will be sent out to the parents. She is also working with Skyward to design the skill based report cards for elementary students.

Mr. Watkins, Special Education Director, is having meetings every day, and catching up on evaluating students from the spring. Mr. Watkins also participated in webinars for state grants that are in relation to Covid. It is great to see the kids. We continue to work with Skyward to bridge our IEP Writer software. He also reported that he has been asked and agreed to be on the Board of Ark of Adams County. He met with them Monday and they are in the process of reorganizing the organization now. The IU continues to have adversary meetings. He is also doing some research on a report for the state on graduating students, and where they are now. It has been great to

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catch up with the parents and prior students. Many are employed or in a training opportunity. The teachers continue to work with the parents and students to ensure they are meeting their needs.

Mrs. Heller, Athletic Director, was not in attendance, but Mr. McDowell, reported that we are following the guidelines for athletic spectators.

Mr. Mooney, Supervisor of Facilities, reported that the fence project is nearly done, there was one problem with wires being hit. The bus company is fixing that and the project will be able to finish. The Trane project is close to finishing up. We have set training dates and are learning how to control the new system. They do have some areas that we can’t control but they will set it for us. They did provide us with their new system to help fight the Covid virus for free. We are getting this free as other districts are paying $25,000 for it. Mrs. Simmons, Mr. Adamek, and I met with Trane to discuss several items.

Regarding the sanitation of the buses and classrooms – buses are sprayed in between runs, classroom and high touch areas daily at night, etc. Monday is our deep clean day. Mr. Mooney appreciates the extra help from food service employees, and invites any support staff that is losing hours due to the current schedule to assist in maintenance. Mrs. Simmons, confirmed this.

Mr. Adamek, Superintendent, also reported about being in school two weeks now, the students are really starting to get into the routine. They have been very good about the masks and how food service is running. We have had residents and parents asking when we are going to be back in for 5 days. As discussed in prior meetings, we are going to reevaluate in a couple weeks to see how to handle the new marking period. So far for us, we haven’t had any positive cases, but we do have students and or staff being sent home. Other districts in the area have had cases and had to shut down classes and or buildings. We have been lucky so far. We will continue with the A/B schedule for now and reevaluate as we go. We have teachers in the building to provide virtual lessons and students are required to sign in. This is another way to get the teachers in front of the kids. It also allows time for questions and discussion about assignments. We are trying to get the teachers’ in front of the students as much as possible. Concerning FACE all students have accounts and we have had some issues with lessons but we are working with the vendor to fix them. It is a learning process. We have also set up more training for them. They have

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done a fantastic job so far getting up to speed with the program, not to say we can’t approve. For safety, we had a fire drill. Mr. Weaver will be reporting out at the next meeting. The students did very well during the fire drill – masks on, and social distancing. He also mentioned that we are going through our final punch list with Trane to ensure everything is completed prior to the final payment being made. Another walk-through will be done after the punch list items are handled. We are hoping to finalize the project in the next week or so.

**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 Mr. Millstein and seconded by Mr. Laird. A roll call vote was taken with all members casting assenting votes. Motion carries, 9-0.

**Budget** A.Approved the general fund bill list in the amount of $812,744.13 from August 20, 2020 through September 18, 2020.

B. Approved the food service fund bill list in the amount of $200.04 from August 20, 2020 through September 18, 2020.

C. Approved the journal entries, budget adjustments and bank reconciliations as presented.

D. Approved the following individuals to the bus/van driver list for the 2020-2021 school year. The contractor is noted.

Dillon Deimler - Jacoby Transportation

Daniel Shinners - Jacoby Transportation

**Personnel** E. Accepted the resignation for retirement from Lynda Comeau, Food Service Director, effective December 31, 2020. Mrs. Comeau served the District for 15 years.

F. Accepted the resignation from Ms. Megan Ziegler as the high school Assistant Musical Co-Director effective immediately.

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G. Approved a supplemental contract for Tara Phillips as a High School Class of 2021 Advisor for the 2020-2021 school year with salary per the Collective Bargaining Agreement. ($2,400)

H. Approved a recommendation from the administration to pay Bridget Munsee, food service worker, at the head cook probationary rate of $11.23 per hour for the 4 days she was training the new head cook.

The Board announced that they held Executive Sessions on September 24, 2020 and prior to tonight’s meeting for legal and personnel matters.

**Adjournment**

On a motion made by Mrs. Van Metre and seconded by Mr. Murray, the meeting unanimously adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mrs. Marcy Van Metre Mrs. Amy Simmons

Board President Recording Secretary

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