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The Fairfield Area School Board met on Monday evening, October 12, 2020 at 7:02 p.m. via Zoom meeting. The following members were in attendance: Mrs. Marcy Van Metre, Presiding; 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; Ms. Crystal Heller, Athletic Director; Mr. Mike Weaver, Safety Coordinator; and Mr. William Mooney, Supervisor of Facilities.

**Minutes**

Approved the minutes of the August 26, 2020 special Board Meeting and the September 28, 2020 regular Board Meeting on a motion made by Mrs. Myers and seconded by Mr. Shutt. A roll call vote was taken with all board members casting assenting votes. Motion carries 8-0.

**Presentations/Reports**

Mr. Adamek, Superintendent, presented the 2019-2020 Years of Service Awards for employees that have been with the District for 20 plus years. Those employees are: Debby Kennedy, 25 years; Angela Hertz, Judy Fox, Dani Mikesell-Redding, Sharon Tuckey and Ellen Waggoner each have 20 years.

Mrs. Simmons, Business Manager, reported that the Federal Government and USDA passed legislation extending the waiver for serving meals until the end of September 2021. Once the state has applied and received the extension, we will also apply. In the meantime we continue to serve meals to the students and provide lunches for pick up. Transportation has also been running smoothly. The auditors were onsite this

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week and will be back for additional information. Everything is going well with the audit and it is on time to be completed next month.

Mr. McDowell, High School Principal, announced that this week we have the PSAT in the high school, mostly 9th and 10th grade students. Mrs. West pushed back the Costa Rica trip until 2022 due to COVID. We also held training and planning with the staff during in-service today.

Mrs. Weber, Middle School Principal, stated that she is continually proud of the teachers and how they are teaching with the four platforms. She truly believes that they are doing a great job. We did hold virtual conferences last week and they went well. The virtual platform for conferences is a process we would like to continue in the future. The middle school families have received a total of 156 Chromebooks and 227 Chromebooks provided to teachers in grades 5-8. We do continue to have issues with the vendor for the FACE platform but we continue to work through them. The middle school continues to follow the CDC guidelines and she appreciates the cooperation from the students and staff.

Mrs. Richwine, Elementary School Principal, reported that the elementary has an Act 80 day and the staff continued ELA training with the new platforms and materials. Amira and Waggle specifically. The elementary school did request and have received 188 Chromebooks for the elementary families. Also the District is following the CDC guidelines for distancing. Our largest classes are Kindergarten and 4th grade.

Mr. Watkins, Special Education Director, said it is more of the same in special education. We find ourselves in Zoom meetings more often than not. We are caught up on the evaluations that were due last spring but couldn’t complete due to the closure. Are department is constantly adjusting to ensure that the students are successful. We are also making sure that staff have the supplies that they need. Upon return, the state required testing and data to be compared to the data at the time of closure, to ensure no

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regression, and if so, additional support provided. Mr. Makar is currently working on a bridge from Skyward and IEP writer.

Ms. Heller, Athletic Director, provided an update on the teams that are currently participating in competition. Physicals for winter and spring sports, will be November 9th 5-7 p.m. at the Well Span office. There will be a digital signup sheet and the winter signups will also be out this coming week. I plan to send out a one call later this week, with this information. The last thing I have is concerning live streaming. The two companies that were reviewed were Huddle and Pixellot. This would provide live streaming services for indoor and outdoor games. There would be some electrical and internet needs to get all of the fields covered. Ms. Heller is looking into both of these more and will provide additional information to the Board.

Mr. Mooney, Supervisor of Facilities, wanted to thank Angie and Debby for their service in his department. He also wanted to thank Delone Catholic and Waynesboro, for allowing us to use their painting equipment for their field lining. Regarding the Trane Project, there are several minor problems still being worked on. We had our first training and can’t adjust the temperatures in the individual rooms. We have had a lot of questions about air exchanges and we are set up to be in compliance with the CDC guidelines. The buses are being sanitized in between runs and high touch surfaces are being sanitized nightly. We have had a lot of inquires about the electromagnetic sprayers and the chemicals being used. Mr. Mooney went over the tablets, having Ms. Schlak send out the information to all staff. The Fairfield Fire Department will not be able to come in for Fire Safety training this year, but he, Mr. Mooney, is also able to do this as he is also certified. Mr. Mooney also offered to spend his time with the elementary students to teach them fire safety as it is fire safety month.

Mr. Adamek, Superintendent, discussed bringing back in-person board meetings. We have set up a hybrid option for residents to come in person to the District Boardroom while also on zoom for members not comfortable coming in person. Also on the agenda

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tonight is two different items – one of them is the phone system, which has been causing issues for a number of years. Currently no can leave messages and the phone system goes out regularly, along with faxing. CenturyLink has come in and tried to repair what they can. At this point, we would like to be able to get bids for replacing the phone system. The other item listed is indoor sports and spectators. The Governor set new guidelines and Mr. McDowell and Ms. Heller will go over that. He also discussed that we are re-evaluating the current reopening plan and looking at coming back 5 days or staying in A/B mode. As a leadership team we are discussing the different options, sending out surveys, and developing how we recommend to move into the next marking period.

Mr. Weaver, Safety Coordinator, feels that from a safety stand point we are doing great with the new school year. We have already completed some fire drills. We will also have safety drills coming up soon and, without guidance from the state, we are going to continue as usual. He also met with the State Police and provided them with Key Fobs to enter the buildings in the event of emergencies. They will be seen around the property in the coming weeks, as they learn the layout of the campus and buildings. The increased presence doesn’t mean anything is going on, just learning the campus. The same with an ambulance learning the campus, roads, hallways and access points.

There have been two items purchased to enhance the safety of the crossing guard. One being a lighted stop sign, led lights in the word STOP. While researching this, we found lighted safety vests. We believe that both these items will help with issues along Fairfield Road. It can also provide the driver with more warning time.

**Public Comment (Agenda Items)**

Mrs. Sharon Sass, Fairfield parent, discussed her frustration with the limits for indoor volleyball games. The seniors on the team haven’t been able to have their families in to watch. This is her daughter’s last year and she wants to be able to attend at least one of her home games, along with the parents of the other athletes.

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**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. Myers and seconded by Mr. Shutt to approve the Consent Agenda Items A –G. A roll call vote was taken with all members casting assenting votes. Motion carries, 8-0.

**Administrative**

**Actions**

A. Amended the Return to Play for Fall Sports Plan – indoor athletic events with spectators.

B. Approved a final vote for Mr. David Millstein as the new board member effective August 26, 2020 through the first Monday of December 2021.

C.Approved a request from Cassie Hoch for an Independent Study Contract during the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year for Concert Choir.

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

Marvin Herr – Jacoby Transportation

Mark Peppel – Jacoby Transportation

E. Approved the 2021-2022 Act 1 Tax Resolution stating that we will not go over the adjusted Act 1 index for the 2021-2022 real estate taxes.

**Personnel** F. Approved the employment of Stacy Crum as a part-time elementary library aide / K-4 aide / building aide for the 2020-2021 school year with salary and benefits per the Support Staff Policy.

G. Accepted the resignation of Mr. Greg Murray, Vice President of the Board of Directors effective immediately.

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**Other Action Items**

A. District Phone System -

**Motion:** Granted permission for the administration to solicit bids for replacing the district’s phone system.

A motion was made by Mr. Shutt and seconded by Mr. Millstein. A roll call vote was taken with all members casting assenting votes. Motion carries, 8-0.

Mrs. Van Metre asked about the funds for this project and Mrs. Simmons reported that we have funds assigned in the fund balance for the telephone project and it would not affect the budget.

**Other Discussion Items:**

(No action to be taken)

A. Board Member Vacancy Application and Timeline -

* Packets available at board meeting, administration office and via the School District website: [www.fairfieldpaschools.org](http://www.fairfieldpaschools.org)
* Deadline for completed applications: Noon on October 23, 2020. (Friday)
* The School Board will interview and appoint a candidate for the vacant board member position at the October 26, 2020 regular school board meeting.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Sean Jones discussed Board Meeting processes and communication with parents.

Ms. Tiffany Price discussed her concerns with the required amount of hours needed to fulfill the attendance requirement for students.

Mrs. Janet Jones voiced her concern regarding middle school locker access. Students need to be able to use their lockers and the book bags are too heavy for them to carry the entire day.

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Ms. Christine Miller discussed the desire to have the students return to school full time, 5 days a week.

The Board announced the October 26, 2020 board meeting would be held in-person and via Zoom application.

The District received a donation from the Adams County Community Foundation c/o Richard Straup Memorial Fund towards an ACTI student tuition.

**Adjournment**

On a motion made by Mrs. Myers and seconded by Mr. Shutt, the meeting unanimously adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mrs. Marcy Van Metre Mrs. Amy Simmons

Board President Recording Secretary

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