July 27, 2020

Page 4658

The Fairfield Area School Board met on Monday evening, July 27, 2020 at 7:06 p.m. via Zoom meeting. The following members were in attendance: Mrs. Marcy Van Metre, Presiding; Mr. Earl Shutt, Mr. Greg Murray, Mr. Josh Laird, Mrs. Becky Bequette, Mrs. Lashay Kalathas, Mrs. Lauren Clark, and Mrs. Jennifer Holz. Absent was Mrs. Rhonda Myers. 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; Mr. Bill Mooney, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, Mrs. Patti Weber, Middle School Principal; Ms. Crystal Heller, Athletic Director; and Mrs. Barb Richwine, Elementary Principal. Also present was Mr. Benjamin Pratt, Solicitor.

**Minutes**

1. Approved the minutes from the [June 22, 2020](#Minutes06222020) regular school board meeting.

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mrs. Bequette and seconded by Mrs. Clark. A roll call vote was taken, with all board members casting assenting votes. Motion carries 8-0.

**Presentation /Reports**

1. Health & Safety Plan 2020-2021 – Mr. Michael P. Adamek

Mr. Michael P. Adamek, Superintendent, presented the Health and Safety Plan for the Fairfield Area School District. Mr. Adamek spoke about re-opening the district in the safest way possible for the 20-21 school year. This plan was created in accordance with the CDC, PDE, the PA Department of Health, and the Governor’s directives. We are trying to get our students back into school in the best way possible with the current conditions. Our health and safety team was made up of various stakeholders across the district. A well rounded representation of our community.

July 27, 2020

Page 4659

Several questions were asked via chat in the zoom meeting and discussion concerning different aspects of the health and safety plan. We also still have an email address for all questions and are creating a FAQ document for posting on our website.

1. District Re-Opening Plan Fall 2020-2021 – Mr. Michael P. Adamek

Mr. Michael P. Adamek, Superintendent, discussed the plan for reopening the district in the fall. The administration has gone back and forth when creating this plan, we have gotten questions and comments, parents and staff were surveyed concerning their feelings with returning to school. He also thanked the parents for their responses and tremendous turn out; we truly appreciate the communication with the district.

We want to ensure that the staff, students and community are safe. Many are saying that it doesn’t affect younger children, however, those children may be A symptomatic or carry the virus home to others in the family. We want you to understand that our plans need to be flexible, depending on the state and what happens in our community. Our plans could change on a minutes notice and we did our best to prepare for all circumstances. Our goal is to be in school all year. That means taking extra precautions outlined in our health and safety plan. Doing self-checks at home, that we need to work together to ensure children and staff are healthy.

The Re-opening plan was presented via a power point presentation. Once Board approved the Re-opening plan will be available via the district website.

1. Cyber School K-8 Program

Mr. Adamek presented a Powerpoint regarding the Fairfield Area School District’s in-house cyber school. The District believes that student learning is not confined to the classroom or to the school day and understands the desire of some students and parents

July 27, 2020

Page 4660

to pursue an educational route that could be considered non-traditional but is becoming more prevalent as technology provides more learning opportunities.

Fairfield Area Cyber Education(FACE) will provide opportunities for students and families that are concerned with the health and safety of returning to face-to-face instruction. The District will provide multiple levels of opportunities Kindergarten through Grade 12 through our FACE program. Students and parents can email the Cyber School Coordinator (Mrs. Kayla Martin) at [martink@Fairfield.k12.pa.us](mailto:martink@Fairfield.k12.pa.us) and get more information on our district website fairfieldpaschools.org

Mr. McDowell stated that more information will be going out to the parents about the process of enrolling their student in FACE.

Mr. Watkins noted that he interviewed for the HS special education teacher and met with the supervisor of the LIU preschool classroom to discuss opening and ongoing changes along with parent communications.

Ms. Heller shared that PIAA will be coming out with guidelines this week. And as of today the fall sports will begin on August 10th with Football and all other sports on August 17th. We have 119 athletes that have signed up for fall sports. Our physicals went well with 61 athletes signing up for an appointment on July 15th. The last sports physicals will be held on July 29th. Clarification on spectators at sporting events will be updated when we receive guidance.

Mr. Mooney mentioned that the athletic field looks great and thanked his staff for all their work done for graduation. The signs have been put up on the District campus. He also mentioned that he would like to replace stone with some grass areas, in the front of the building, to help keep up with the maintenance in those areas. He stated that most toilets have been replaced by automatic flushers for a touchless system. The fire stopping will be done in-house with the materials that Mr. Kessel bought previously. We will do the best we can to not bring additional expenses to the District.

July 27, 2020

Page 4661

**Consent Agenda:**

A discussion was held concerning the consent agenda. Items A – B were pulled for an individual vote. A motion to approve the consent agenda C-J and A-C on the Addendum was made by Mrs. Bequette and seconded by Mrs. Clark. A roll call vote was taken will all members passing assenting votes. Motion carries 8-0.

**Administrative**

**Actions**

A. Approved the Health & Safety Plan for the 2020-2021 school year.

A discussion was held concerning our health and safety plan by Mrs. Bequette. She reviewed several areas of the plan and feels we need to strengthen our plan and cleaning practices. Mr. Murray also had several concerns. Mr. Ben Pratt spoke about the legal and liability issues due to the Covid-19 environment.

A motion was made to approve the Health & Safety Plan by Mr. Shutt and seconded by Mrs. Clark. Roll call vote was taken Mrs. Bequette, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Holz, Mr. Laird, Mr. Murray, Mr. Shutt, and Mrs. Van Metre casting assenting votes, and Mrs. Kalathas casting dissenting vote. Motion carries 7-1.

B. Approved the District Re-Opening Plan for the fall 2020-2021 school year.

A motion was made by Mr. Shutt and seconded by Mrs. Holz. A roll call vote was taken. Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Holz, Mr. Laird, Mr. Shutt, and Mrs. Van Metre all casting assenting votes. Mrs. Bequette, Mrs. Kalathas, and Mr. Murray casting dissenting votes. Motion carries 5-3.

C. Approved the FASD Cyber School K-8 Program for the 2020-2021 school year.

July 27, 2020

Page 4662

1. Approved implementation of (FID) Flexible Instruction  
   Days during the 2020-2021 school year as needed.  A FID is a program available to public school entities to be used as an alternate approach to delivering instruction, if a circumstance arises that prevents instruction in customary face-to-face manner.

**Budget** E.Approved the general fund bill list in the amount of $132,636.76 from June 17, 2020 through July 14, 2020.

F. Approved the food service fund bill list in the amount of $379.59 from June 17, 2020 through July 14, 2020.

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

**Personnel** H.Approved resignations from the following advisors / coaches effective immediately and granted permission to advertise these vacancies for the 2020-2021 school year.

Shauna Snyder

HS Varsity Ass’t Cross Country Coach

Katelyn Stephen

HS Varsity Girls’ Ass’t Soccer Coach

Kristen Eaton-Vlcej

HS Class of 2021 Advisor

Katie Barnes

HS Student Council Advisor

1. Approved a request for childbearing leave from Ms. Ashley Skidmore beginning September 8, 2020 through October 19, 2020.
2. Approved a supplemental contract for Mr. David Joy as a High School Varsity Ass’t Football Coach for the 2020-2021 school year with salary per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

July 27, 2020

Page 4663

**Action Items:**

1. Real Estate Tax Penalty & Discount Period – Amy Simmons, Business Manager

Mrs. Simmons discussed recent legislation that pasted in PA concerning the discount and penalty period when it pertains to the real estate tax bills for the 20-21 year. Mrs. Simmons has surveyed all the other Adams County districts to see where they stand on this and, at this time, no other district is considering this. The District stands to lose half of the revenue generated by the tax increase for the 20-21 budget if we extend our discount period and eliminate the penalty. The discount is 2% and the penalty is 10%. A discussion was held about the estimated loses and how these changes would affect the current budget.

A motion was made by Mr. Shutt to not extend the discount period nor eliminate the penalty charges. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Van Metre. A roll call vote was taken with Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Holz, Mrs. Kalathas, Mr. Murray, Mr. Shutt, and Mrs. Van Metre all casting assenting votes. Mrs. Bequette and Mr. Laird both cast dissenting votes. Motion carries 6-2.

**Transfers / Assignments –**

* + An involuntary temporary transfer for Mrs. Sharon Tuckey from Elementary Library to Elementary Second Grade for the 2020-2021 school year.

**Addendum**

**Consent**

1. Approved the employment of Mr. Jason P. Dietrich as a full-time Middle School 7th Grade Science Teacher with salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement effective August 31, 2020 pending all certification and paperwork is complete.

July 27, 2020

Page 4664

1. Approved a resignation from Mr. Douglas Conrad, High School Music Teacher, effective August 28, 2020 and grant permission for the administration to advertise and recommend for hire a full-time High School Music teacher for the 2020-2021 school year.
2. Approved a resignation from Mrs. Becky Bequette, Board Member, effective August 18, 2020.

**Other Action Items**

1. Board ~~Treasurer~~ Secretary Appointment

**Motion:** Move to appoint a ~~treasurer~~ secretary for a one-year term beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Background: This is a yearly request as per Pennsylvania School Code 24 PS 4-404.

A motion was made by Mr. Shutt and seconded by Mrs. Van Metre to appointment Lauren Clark as the board secretary. A roll call vote was taken with Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Holz, Mrs. Kalathas, Mr. Murray, Mr. Shutt, Mrs. Bequette, Mr. Laird and Mrs. Van Metre all casting assenting votes.

**Other Discussion Items**

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: 2 PM on August 24, 2020.
* The School Board will interview and appoint a candidate for the vacant board member position at the August 24, 2020 regular school board meeting.

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

July 27, 2020

Page 4665

**Adjournment**

On a motion made by Mrs. Van Metre and seconded by Mrs. Bequette, the meeting unanimously adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mrs. Marcy Van Metre Mrs. Amy Simmons

Board President Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_