

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Directors Fort Cherry School District

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Fort Cherry School District was held Monday, October 23, 2023, beginning with Executive Session at 6:00 PM and the Regular Board meeting at 7:00 PM via Zoom electronic meeting/held in the Learning Commons at the High School located at 110 Fort Cherry Road, McDonald, PA 15057.

The following members were present:

Mrs. Jodi McKay	Mr. Paul Bianchini
Mr. Chase Ogburn	Ms. Beverly Schwab
Mrs. Cynthia Gaskill	Mr. Cory Matchett
Mrs. Jeanine Miles	Mrs. Julie Sepesy
Mr. Louis Ursitz	

The following members were excused/absent:
none

The following non-members were present:

Mr. Thomas Samosky, Superintendent
Mrs. Mary Burford, Business Manager
Mrs. Pam Staley, Board Secretary (interim)
Mr. Russel Lucas, Solicitor, Andrews and Price

The following community members were present:

Attendee list is filed with Board Documents

* List of all members that attended virtual session will be filed with official Board minutes

I. **Executive Session** (6:00pm)

Executive Session was held starting at 6:00pm and ending at 7:00 pm.
Executive session items discussed were Legal, Personnel and Finance issues.

II. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call

By Whom: President McKay

Time: 7:11 pm

III. Approval of Agenda – Regular Meeting of October 23, 2023

1st: Ms. Schwab

2nd: Mr. Ursitz

Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz, to approve the agenda of the Regular Meeting of October 23, 2023. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

IV. Remarks by Visitors

(As per Fort Cherry School District Policy for Conducting Meetings of the Board of School Directors)

None

V. Action on the approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 25, 2023

1st: Ms. Schwab

2nd: Mr. Ursitz

Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 25, 2023. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

VI. Secretary's Correspondence

Mrs. Pam Staley reported that a donation and condolence letter was sent on behalf of the Board to the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association in memory of Martin Cowden who was a District bus driver and community member.

VII. Treasurer's Actions

A. Action on the approval of Bills for Payment

1st: Mrs. Gaskill

2nd: Ms. Schwab

Motion: 9-0

Mrs. Gaskill made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab, that the Board approve the Bills for Payment. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

B. Action on the approval of the Treasurer's Report Account Summaries.

1st: Mrs. Gaskill

2nd: Ms. Schwab

Motion: 9-0

Mrs. Gaskill made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab, that the Board approve the Treasurer's Report Account Summaries. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

C. Action on the approval of Budget Control Reports

1st: Mrs. Gaskill

2nd: Mr. Matchett

Motion: 9-0

Mrs. Gaskill made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ogburn, that the Board approve the Budget Control Reports. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

VIII. Reports

A. Board Reports

Mrs. Sepesy attended Dig Pink which is Girls' Volleyball's fundraising event to raise money for Breast Cancer research. She said it was a well organized, and well attended event that raised over \$10,000.00. Mrs. Sepesy also reported the 7-9 grader Halloween Dance was well done and had 80-85 attendees.

Mr. Bianchini gave updates from Fort Cherry Foundation. On January 20, 2024, the Foundation will be holding an entertainment event at the Grand Theater in McDonald. A flyer is now available.

Mr. Bianchini announced that the EITC credit was approved on October 23, 2023. He is also working with Dr. Lauver and Mr. Speakman on the Building Capacity grant on Phase II. Proposal is being submitted for \$15,000.00.

Mr. Ogburn reported the Fort Cherry Little Rangers were thankful for the opportunity to practice under the lights.

B. Solicitor's Report

none

C. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent's Report is included in the Board packet and posted on the Fort Cherry website.

IX. Personnel and Curriculum

- A. Action on the approval to hire Mr. William Beiling as School Security Officer, per the attached contract, contingent upon the final receipt and review of any and all new hire paperwork.

1st: Ms. Schwab

2nd: Mr. Matchett

Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Matchett, to approve to hire Mr. William Beiling as School Security Officer, per the attached contract, contingent upon the final receipt and review of any and all new hire paperwork. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

- B. Acknowledge the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Ms. Deborah McNary, cleaner, effective January 2, 2024.

Mrs. McKay acknowledged the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Ms. Deborah McNary, cleaner, and thanked her for her service.

- C. Acknowledge the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Mrs. Patricia Fedinetz, Food Service Manager, effective June 30, 2024.

Mrs. McKay acknowledged the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Mrs. Patricia Fedinetz, and thanked her for her many contributions to the families of Fort Cherry.

- D. Acknowledge the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Ms. Diana Jobs, Professional Employee, effective January 5, 2024.

Mrs. McKay acknowledged the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Ms. Diana Jobs, and thanked her for her many contributions to the students of Fort Cherry.

- E. Acknowledge the resignation of Ms. Marissa Scullion, High School Special Education teacher, effective immediately.

Mrs. McKay acknowledged the resignation of Ms. Marissa Scullion, and shared her thanks.

- F. Action on the approval to hire Ms. Alicia Booz as a High School Special Education teacher per the FCEA Collective Bargaining Agreement, contingent upon the final receipt and review of any and all new hire paperwork. Start date to be determined upon the release from her current District.

1st: Ms. Schwab 2nd: Mr. Matchett Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Matchett, to hire Ms. Alicia Booz as a High School Special Education teacher per the FCEA Collective Bargaining Agreement, contingent upon the final receipt and review of any and all new hire paperwork. Start date to be determined upon the release from her current District.

Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

X. Buildings and Grounds

- A. Action on the approval for Huckestein Mechanical to supply and install four (4) expansion tanks for the Elementary school at a cost of \$15,540.00 per the attached quote.

1st: Ms. Schwab 2nd: Mr. Matchett Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Matchett, to approve Huckestein Mechanical to supply and install four (4) expansion tanks for the Elementary school at a cost of \$15,540.00 per the attached quote. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

- B. Action on the approval of the Design Plan (\$7,700.00) and Survey (\$5,800.00) proposal from JTSA Sports for a total of \$13,500.00.

1st: Mrs. Miles 2nd: Mr. Ursitz Motion to table: 5-4

Mrs. Miles made a motion to table the approval of the Design Plan and Survey proposal from JTSA Sports until the final audit report is submitted. The motion to table was a 5-4 vote. Those in favor of tabling the proposal are: Mrs. Sepesy, Mr. Ursitz, Mrs. Gaskill, Mrs. Miles, and Ms. Schwab. Those opposed to tabling the proposal are: Mr. Matchett, Mr. Bianchini, Mrs. McKay, and Mr. Ogburn. The proposal will be added to the agenda after final audit is submitted. We are anticipating it will be on the February agenda at this time.

XI. Transportation

none

XII. Finance

none

XIII. Technology

- A. Action on the approval of a contract between Van Strien Consulting, LLC and Fort Cherry School District for the purpose of e-Rate procurement for the 2024-25 funding year.

1st: Ms. Schwab 2nd: Mr. Ursitz Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz, to approve the contract between Van Strien Consulting, LLC and Fort Cherry

School District for the purpose of e-Rate procurement for the 2024-25 funding year. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

XIV. Athletics

- A. Action on the approval to hire Mr. Steven Eiler as the Jr. High Head Wrestling Coach, per the FCEA Collective Bargaining agreement, contingent upon the final receipt and review of any and all new hire paperwork.

1st: Mrs. Sepesy 2nd: Mrs. Miles Motion: 9-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Miles, to hire Mr. Steven Eiler as the Jr. High Head Wrestling Coach, per the FCEA Collective Bargaining agreement, contingent upon the final receipt and review of any and all new hire paperwork. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

- B. Action on the approval to hire Ms. Erin Garry as the Varsity Girls' Assistant Wrestling Coach, per the FCEA Collective Bargaining agreement, contingent upon the final receipt and review of any and all new hire paperwork.

1st: Ms. Schwab 2nd: Mrs. Sepesy Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Sepesy, to hire Ms. Erin Garry as the Varsity Girls' Assistant Wrestling Coach, per the FCEA Collective Bargaining agreement, contingent upon the final receipt and review of any and all new hire paperwork. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

- C. Action on the approval of Mr. Edward Eiler as a volunteer Jr. High Boys' Wrestling coach, contingent upon the receipt and final review of all required clearances.

1st: Mrs. Sepesy 2nd: Ms. Schwab Motion: 9-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab, to approve Mr. Edward Eiler as a volunteer Jr. High Boys' Wrestling coach, contingent upon the receipt and final review of all required clearances. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

- D. Action on the approval of a Girls' Varsity Wrestling Co-op between Fort Cherry and Avella School Districts.

1st: Ms. Schwab 2nd: Mr. Ursitz Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz, to approve of a Girls' Varsity Wrestling Co-op between Fort Cherry and Avella School Districts. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

- E. Action on the approval of Mr. Kevin Center as the Weight Room Coordinator, effective immediately, per the FCEA Collective Bargaining agreement.

1st: Ms. Schwab 2nd: Mr. Matchett Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Matchett, to approve Mr. Kevin Center as the Weight Room Coordinator, effective immediately, per the FCEA Collective Bargaining agreement. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

- F. Action on the approval to open the Varsity Softball Head Coaching position.

1st: Ms. Schwab 2nd: Mr. Ursitz Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz, to approve to open the Varsity Softball Head Coaching position. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

- G. Action on the approval for the Boys Basketball Team to attend an overnight team retreat at Jumonville Retreat Center in Uniontown, PA on December 8, 2023 – December 10, 2023.

1st: Mrs. Sepesy 2nd: Ms. Schwab Motion: 9-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab, to approve the Boys Basketball Team to attend an overnight team retreat at Jumonville Retreat Center in Uniontown, PA on December 8, 2023 – December 10, 2023. Expenses paid by the Basketball Boosters. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

XV. Activities

none

XVI. Policy

None

XVII. Miscellaneous

- A. Action on the approval of the District Budgetary Planning Meetings for the 2024-2025 school year.

1st: Ms. Schwab 2nd: Mr. Matchett Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Matchett, to approve the District Budgetary Planning Meetings for the 2024-2025 school year. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

- B. Action on the approval of the Schedule for Regular Board Meetings for the 2024 calendar year.

1st: Ms. Schwab 2nd: Mr. Matchett Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Matchett, to approve the Schedule for Regular Board Meetings for the 2024 calendar year. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

- C. Action on the approval to authorize Fort Cherry School District and Southwest Training Services Inc. to pursue a Career Readiness Program grant application request to the Washington County Local Share Account (LSA).

1st: Ms. Schwab 2nd: Mr. Ursitz Motion: 9-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz, to approve to authorize Fort Cherry School District and Southwest Training Services Inc. to pursue a Career Readiness Program grant application request to the Washington County Local Share Account (LSA). Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

XVIII. Public Comment

(As per Fort Cherry School District Policy for Conducting Meetings of the Board of School Directors)

There were no public comments.

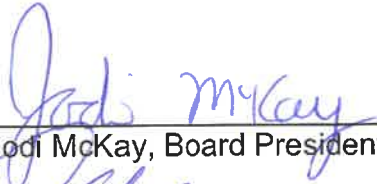
XIX. Executive Session

none

XX. Adjournment

1st: Mr. Ursitz 2nd: Ms. Schwab Motion: 9-0

Mr. Ursitz made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab, that the Board approve the adjournment of the Regular Meeting of October 23, 2023. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0, and the meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.


Mrs. Jodi McKay, Board President


Mrs. Pam Staley, Board Secretary

