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, June 22, 2026, beginning with Executive Session at 6:00 PM, with the Regular 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	Mrs. Amanda Smith
Mr. Chase Ogburn	Mrs. Leslie Maxin
Mrs. Julie Sepesy	Mr. Chris Salvini
Mr. Paul Bianchini	Mrs. Cynthia Gaskill

The following non-members were present:

Mr. Thomas Samosky, Superintendent
Mrs. Reneé Miller, Business Manager
Mr. Russ Lucas, Solicitor, Andrews and Price

The following community members were present:

List of all members that attended in person and via virtual session will be filed with official Board minutes

I. Executive Session (6:00 PM)

Executive Session was held starting at 6:00 PM. Safety & Security and Personnel were discussed. The annual Safety & Security review was presented by Dr. Brian Harvey and Officer Michael Dhanse.

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

By Whom: President McKay Time: 7:03 PM

III. Approval of Agenda – Regular Meeting of June 22, 2026
1st: Mrs. Smith 2nd: Mrs. Maxin Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Smith made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Maxin, to approve the agenda of the Regular Meeting of June 22, 2026. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

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 Minutes –

A. Regular Meeting of May 26, 2026
1st: Mrs. Sepesy 2nd: Mrs. Maxin Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Maxin, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 26, 2026. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

VI. Secretary's Correspondence

none

VII. Treasurer's Actions

A. Action on the approval of Bills for Payment
1st: Mrs. Gaskill 2nd: Mr. Salvini Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Gaskill made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Salvini, that the Board approve the Bills for Payment. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

B. Action on the approval of the Treasurer's Report Account Summaries
1st: Mrs. Gaskill 2nd: Mr. Ogburn Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Gaskill made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ogburn, that the Board approve the Treasurer's Report Account Summaries. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

C. Action on the approval of the Budget Control Reports
1st: Mrs. Gaskill 2nd: Mr. Ogburn Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Gaskill made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ogburn, that the Board approve the Budget Control Reports. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

VIII. Reports

A. **Board Reports**

Mrs. Maxin reported that Mrs. Steffie Smith, Western Area CTC secretary, is retiring at the end of June after 40 years of service.

B. **Solicitor's Report**

none

C. **Superintendents Report**

The Superintendent's Report is posted on the website and has been made part of the official minutes.

IX. Personnel and Curriculum

A. Action on the approval to appoint Ms. Jessica Cole as High School Principal, per the Act 93 agreement, effective June 8, 2026.
1st: Mrs. Sepesy 2nd: Mr. Ogburn Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ogburn, to appoint Ms. Jessica Cole as High School Principal, per the Act 93 agreement, effective June 8, 2026. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

B. Action on the approval to appoint Mr. Timothy Witenske as High School Assistant Principal, per the Act 93 agreement, effective June 29, 2026.
1st: Mrs. Smith 2nd: Mrs. Gaskill Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Smith made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Gaskill, to appoint Mr. Timothy Witenske as High School Assistant Principal, per the Act 93 agreement, effective June 29, 2026. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

C. Action on the approval to promote Mrs. Stephaney Aleksiejczyk from Part-Time Paraprofessional to Full-Time Paraprofessional effective August 20, 2026, per the Fort Cherry Secretary/Aides ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement.
1st: Mrs. Sepesy 2nd: Mr. Ogburn Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ogburn, to promote Mrs. Stephaney Aleksiejczyk from Part-Time Paraprofessional to Full-Time Paraprofessional effective August 20, 2026, per the Fort Cherry Secretary/Aides ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement.
Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

D. Action on the approval to hire Mrs. Caitlin Bauman as a Part-Time Paraprofessional effective August 20, 2026, per the Fort Cherry Secretary/Aides ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement.

1st: Mr. Ogburn 2nd: Mrs. Gaskill Motion: 8-0

Mr. Ogburn made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Gaskill, to hire Mrs. Caitlin Bauman as a Part-Time Paraprofessional effective August 20, 2026, per the Fort Cherry Secretary/Aides ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

E. Action on the approval to hire Mrs. Tara Shuba as a full-time cook, per the Fort Cherry ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement, contingent upon the final receipt and review of any and all new hire paperwork. Effective date is June 23, 2026.
1st: Mrs. Sepesy 2nd: Mrs. Gaskill Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Gaskill, to hire Mrs. Tara Shuba as a full-time cook, per the Fort Cherry ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement, contingent upon the final receipt and review of any and all new hire paperwork. Effective date is June 23, 2026. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

X. Buildings and Grounds

A. Action on the approval to purchase LED lighting fixtures and accessories for the the High School and Elementary Center from Triple E Solutions LLC under CoSTARS Contract #008-E24-1373 in the total amount of $96,303.25, funded by the Capital Projects fund. This amount will be partially offset with grants and rebates totaling $25,671.00.
1st: Mrs. Smith 2nd: Mr. Salvini Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Smith made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Salvini, to purchase LED lighting fixtures and accessories for the the High School and Elementary Center from Triple E Solutions LLC under CoSTARS Contract #008-E24-1373 in the total amount of $96,303.25, funded by the Capital Projects fund. This amount will be partially offset with grants and rebates totaling $25,671.00. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

XI. Transportation

A. Action on the approval to enter into a one year agreement with UniteGPS for bus GPS Tracking and Routing on 11 buses for $2,800.00 per the attached quote.
1st: Mrs. Smith 2nd: Mr. Salvini Motion: 7-1

Mrs. Smith made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Salvini, to to enter into a one year agreement with UniteGPS for bus GPS Tracking and Routing on 11 buses for $2,800.00 per the attached quote. Motion passed unanimously, 7-1 with Mrs. Sepesy opposed.

XII. Finance

A. Action on the approval of the adoption of the Total Tax Structure - Resolution No. 11 - 2026-06-22. (roll call)
1st: Mrs. Sepesy 2nd: Mr. Ogburn Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ogburn, to approve to adopt the Total Tax Structure - Resolution No. 11 - 2026-06-22. Roll call was taken and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

B. Action on the approval to adopt the Final Budget for the 2026-2027 school year with expenditures of $23,972,787.00 and Setting the Real Estate Millage for the 2026-2027 fiscal year at 16.952 - Resolution No. 12 - 2026-06-22. (roll call)
1st: Mrs. Smith 2nd: Mrs. Maxin Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Smith made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Maxin, to approve to adopt the Final Budget for the 2026-2027 school year with expenditures of $23,972,787.00 and Setting the Real Estate Millage for the 2026-2027 fiscal year at 16.952 - Resolution No. 12 - 2026-06-22. Roll call was taken and the motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

C. Action on the approval to adopt the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Act - Resolution No. 13 - 2026-06-22.
1st: Mrs. Sepesy 2nd: Mrs. Smith Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve to adopt the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Act - Resolution No. 13 - 2026-06-22. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

XIII. Technology

A. Action of the approval to purchase of a 3 year subscription for $42,187.65 which will provide, web filtering for CIPA compliance, mobile device management, student safety monitoring, and classroom device monitoring for teachers. The term is July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2029 per the attached quote.
1st: Mrs. Smith 2nd: Mr. Salvini Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Smith made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Salvini, to purchase a 3 year subscription for $42,187.65 which will provide, web filtering for CIPA compliance, mobile device management, student safety monitoring, and classroom device monitoring for teachers. The term is July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2029 per the attached quote. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

B. Action on the approval of a one year renewal with LinkIt! for $16,689.00 per the attached quote.
1st: Mrs. Gaskill 2nd: Mr. Ogburn Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Gaskill made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ogburn, that the Board approve a one year renewal with LinkIt! for $16,689.00 per the attached quote. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0

XIV. Athletics

none

XV. Activities

none

XVI. Policy

none

XVII. Miscellaneous

Motion to combine Miscellaneous Items XVII. A. through G. as a group.
1st: Mrs. Smith 2nd: Mrs. Maxin Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Smith made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Maxin to combine Miscellaneous Items XVII. A. through G. as a group. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Motion to approve the previously combined Miscellaneous Items XVII. A. through G. as a group.
1st: Mrs. Maxin 2nd: Mrs. Smith Motion: 8-0

Mr. Maxin made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the previously combined Miscellaneous Items XVII. A. through G. as a group. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

A. Action on the approval of the Special Education Plan effective 2026-2030.

B. Action on the approval of a Special Education Services Agreement one year contract between Fort Cherry School District and Avella Area School District for the 2026-2027 school year, subject to final review and approval of the District's Solicitor.

C. Action on the approval of an affiliation agreement between Fort Cherry School District and Community College of Beaver County.

D. Action on the approval of an affiliation agreement between Fort Cherry School District and Washington and Jefferson College.

E. Action on the approval of the Acadience Learning Online quote to administer DIBELS Reading Digital Administration for the 2026-2027 school year for $2,235.00 per the attached quote. This will replace Amplify DIBELS assessment.

F. Action on the approval of Mrs. Jodie Hoover to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN with 10-14 students from October 21-24, 2026. Transportation costs will be shared with Avella and McGuffey High Schools. Further details are in the attached document.

G. Action on the approval of naming Draw Collective Architecture the architect of record for Fort Cherry School District.

XVIII. Public Comment

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

none

XIX. Executive Session

none

XX. Adjournment

1st: Mrs. Smith 2nd: Mr. Salvini Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Smith made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Salvini, that the Board approve the adjournment of the Regular Meeting of June 22, 2026. Motion passed, 8-0, and the meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Jodi McKay

Mrs. Jodi McKay, Board President

Mrs. Pam Staley, Board Secretary