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, August 10, 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. R J Diaz	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. Ryan Notzen, 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. Personnel and programs were discussed.

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

By Whom: President McKay Time: 7:07 PM

III. Approval of Agenda – Regular Meeting of August 10, 2026
1st: Mr. Diaz 2nd: Mrs. Maxin Motion: 8-0

Mr. Diaz made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Maxin, to approve the agenda of the Regular Meeting of August 10, 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 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 minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 22, 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: Mrs. Maxin Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Gaskill made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Maxin, 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: Mrs. Smith Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Gaskill made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Smith, 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. Diaz Motion: 8-0

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

VIII. Reports

A. **Board Reports**

Mrs. Maxin reported that August 17, 2026 will be the CCBC ribbon cutting

ceremony. Mr. Bianchini reported a $1500.00 donation to a Kindergarten project from the Fort Cherry foundation.

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. Mr. Samosky did make a special effort to thank District Administration for introducing new programs across the board and for the hard work done over the summer.

IX. Personnel and Curriculum

Motion to combine Personnel Items IX. A. through O. as a group.
1st: Mr. Diaz 2nd: Mrs. Smith Motion: 8-0

Mr. Diaz made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Smith to combine Personnel Items IX. A. through O. as a group. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Motion to approve the previously combined Personnel Items IX. A. through O. as a group.
1st: Mrs. Maxin 2nd: Mr. Diaz Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Maxin made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Diaz to approve the previously combined Personnel Items IX. A. through O. as a group. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

A. Acknowledge the resignation of Mr. Michael Schafer, professional employee, BCIT teacher, effective June 18, 2026.

B. Action on the approval to hire Mr. Jack Merckle, professional employee, High School Business Computer & Informational Technology Teacher, per the FCEA Collective Bargaining agreement, Bachelor's level Step 1, contingent on the final receipt and review of any and all new hire paperwork.

C. Acknowledge the maternity leave for professional employee #2026-27-04, to tentatively begin October 19, 2026.

D. Acknowledge the request for Sabbatical Leave for a Professional Employee #2026-27-02 for the 2026-2027 school year.

E. Acknowledge the resignation of Mr. Robert Finney, Director of Facilities, effective July 13, 2026.

F. Action on the approval of Mrs. Korin Aglio, Long Term Substitute, Elementary Teacher, per the FCEA Collective Bargaining Agreement at Bachelor's Level, Step 3, for the 2026-2027 school year.

G. Action on the approval of Ms. Sydney Weaver, Long Term Substitute, Elementary Teacher, per the FCEA Collective Bargaining Agreement at Bachelor's Level, Step 2, for the 2026-2027 school year.

H. Action on the approval to hire Ms. Piper Krocker as a long term substitute part-time food service, per the Fort Cherry ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement, for the 2026-2027 school year. Effective date is August 20, 2026.

I. Action on the approval of the Separation Agreement between Fort Cherry School District and employee #2026-27-03.

J. Action on the approval to grant an annual stipend of $5,000.00 to an administrator for the Director of Transportation position for the 2026-2027 school year.

K. Action on the approval to accept Mr. Timothy Witenske's 29 sick days from his prior District.

L. Action on the approval of the Substitute Lists for the 2026-2027 school year.

M. Action on the approval for the Superintendent or Designee to make additions to the Substitute Lists for the 2026-2027 school year.

N. Action on the approval of the following Class Sponsors, per the FCEA Collective Bargaining Agreement memorandum of agreement dated May 26, 2026: Katelyn Willyerd - 9th Grade Class Sponsor; Ryan Osman - 10th Grade Class Sponsor; Andrew Mine - 11th Grade Class Sponsor; Mike Novak - 12th Grade Class Sponsor.

O. Action on the approval for Ms. Jeanine Ambrose, professional employee, to develop and teach the following Cyber Education courses: Spanish 1 and Spanish 3. Compensation per the FCEA Collective Bargaining agreement.

X. Buildings and Grounds

Motion to combine Buildings and Grounds Items X. A. through D. as a group.

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

Mr. Diaz made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Smith to combine Buildings and Grounds Items X. A. through D. as a group. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Motion to approve the previously combined Buildings and Grounds Items X. A. through D.as a group.
1st: Mr. Diaz 2nd: Mr. Salvini Motion: 8-0

Mr. Diaz made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Salvini to approve the previously combined Buildings and Grounds Items X. A. through D. as a group. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

A. Action on the approval of a one year Service and Maintenance Agreement between Fort Cherry School District and Bozic Communications, Inc. for electrical system maintenance and contingencies. Agreement is attached and is contingent on final solicitor approval.

B. Action on the approval to hire A+ Doorman to re-key the High School to include the use of master keys for each floor to improve safety, for $19,000.00, per the attached quote. (PCCD funding)

C. Action on the acceptance of the quote from County Hauling for trash collection effective October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2029 as attached.

D. Action on the approval of the five (5) year agreement between Fort Cherry School District and Cintas to provide the District entry rugs effective August 11, 2026 - August 10, 2031. Quote is attached.

XI. Transportation

Motion to combine Transportation Items XI. A. through B. as a group.
1st: Mrs. Smith 2nd: Mr. Diaz Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Smith made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Diaz to combine Transportation Items XI. A. through B. as a group. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Motion to approve the previously combined Transportation Items XI. A. through B. as a group.
1st: Mrs. Smith 2nd: Mr. Diaz Motion: 7-0-1

Mrs. Smith made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Diaz to approve the previously combined Transportation Items XI. A. through B. as a group. Motion passed, 7-0-1, with Mrs. Sepesy abstaining due to conflict of interest. Abstention paperwork is on file with the Board documents.

A. Action on the approval of the updated Bus Driver List for the 2026-2027 school year contingent upon the receipt and final review of any and all paperwork.

B. Action on the approval of the District Bus Stops for the 2026-2027 School year.

XII. Finance

A. Action on the approval to adopt Resolution #14-2026-08-10 Public School Facility Improvement Grant application
1st: Mr. Diaz 2nd: Mrs. Sepesy Motion: 8-0

Mr. Diaz made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Sepesy, to approve to adopt Resolution #14-2026-08-10 Public School Facility Improvement Grant application. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

XIII. Technology

A. Action on the approval of the agreement between Fort Cherry School District and GDC IT Solutions for Microsoft licensing for the 2026–2027 school year for $6,509.00 per the attached agreement.
1st: Mr. Diaz 2nd: Mrs. Smith Motion: 8-0

Mr. Diaz made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the agreement between Fort Cherry School District and GDC IT Solutions for Microsoft licensing for the 2026–2027 school year for $6,509.00 per the attached agreement. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

XIV. Athletics

Motion to combine Athletics Items XIV. A. through F. as a group.
1st: Mr. Diaz 2nd: Mrs. Smith Motion: 8-0

Mr. Diaz made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Smith to combine Athletic Items XIV. A. through F. as a group. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Motion to approve the previously combined Athletics Items XIV. A. through F. as a group.
1st: Mrs. Smith 2nd: Mr. Diaz Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Smith made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Diaz to approve the previously combined Athletics Items XIV. A. through F. as a group. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

A. Action on the approval to enter a Varsity High School Boys' Soccer Cooperative agreement (attached) with Burgettstown and South Side Beaver School Districts effective July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2028. South Side School District will be the host school.

B. Acknowledge the resignation of the 7/8 grade head softball coach, Ms. Natalie Grosziewicz.

C. Acknowledge the resignation of the 7/8 grade assistant softball coach, Mr. Matthew Sobocinski.

D. Action on the approval of Mr. Matthew Sobocinski as the Head 7/8 grade Softball Coach, per the FCEA Collective Bargaining Agreement.

E. Action on the approval of Ms. Ginger Crowley as the Assistant 7/8 grade Softball Coach, per the FCEA Collective Bargaining Agreement.

F. Action on the approval for the Boys Basketball Team to attend an overnight team retreat at Jumonville Retreat Center in Uniontown, PA on the tentative dates November 20-22, 2026, or a make-up date if applicable. Trip will be funded by the Basketball boosters.

XV. Activities

none

XVI. Policy

none

XVII. Miscellaneous

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

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

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

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

A. Action on the approval of the agreement between Intermediate Unit 1 and Fort Cherry School District for the yearly renewal of video conferencing software for the monthly board meeting for $93.00, per the attached quote.

B. Action on the approval of the conveyance to the Borough of McDonald, for the consideration of $1, the park property on Grant Avenue and authorize the Board President to execute the Deed and for Administration to undertake any action necessary to carry out the transfer.

C. Action on the approval of granting the Superintendent authority to approve building disposal lists related to consumables, old textbooks/resources, and broken/damaged equipment/furniture (in addition, any disposed item will be removed from the District's Asset List)

D. Action on the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between Fort Cherry School District and the Washington County Court of Common Pleas Juvenile Probation division to provide a Probation Officer as part of the High School Student Assistance Program Team as attached.

E. Action on the approval of the Settlement Agreement between Fort Cherry School District and the family of student "C" as presented.

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. Diaz Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Smith made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Diaz, that the Board approve the adjournment of the Regular Meeting of August 10, 2026. Motion passed, 8-0, and the meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Mrs. Jodi McKay, Board President

Mrs. Pam Staley, Board Secretary