

# Minutes of Regular Meeting

## The Board of Directors Fort Cherry School District

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Fort Cherry School District was held Monday, March 25, 2024, 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	Mr. Chase Ogburn
Mrs. Cynthia Gaskill	Mrs. Jeanine Miles
Mrs. Julie Sepesy	Ms. Beverly Schwab
Mrs. Leslie Maxin	Ms. Amanda Herforth

The following members were excused/absent:

Mr. Paul Bianchini

The following non-members were present:

Mr. Thomas Samosky, Superintendent  
Mrs. Mary Burford, Business Manager  
Mrs. Pam Staley, Board Secretary  
Mr. Russell 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 (6:00pm)**

Executive Session was held starting at 6:00 pm and ending at 7:03 pm. Executive session items discussed were legal, safety and security, and personnel.

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

By Whom: President McKay

Time: 7:08 pm



- B. Action on the approval of the Treasurer's Report Account Summaries  
1<sup>st</sup>: Mrs. Gaskill                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      Motion: 8-0

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

- C. Action on the approval of the Budget Control Reports  
1<sup>st</sup>: Mrs. Gaskill                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      Motion: 8-0

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

**IX. Reports**

**A. Board Reports**

Mr. Bianchini was not in attendance but sent a report stating that the Foundation was presented with a check for almost \$1000 from the Red Fox bingo night. The Foundation is also currently planning for a mailing campaign in late August or early September for the WCCF Day of Giving.

**B. Solicitor's Report**

No Solicitor's Report

**C. Superintendents Report**

The Superintendent's Report is attached and has been made part of the official minutes. The report is also posted on the website. Mr. Samosky congratulated both the Boys' and Girls' Basketball teams and their coaches. They had fantastic seasons and we had wonderful community support.

Rivendale Farms is hiring 2 interns from Fort Cherry this summer. The Farm is supporting our career readiness initiatives. Mr. Samosky also thanked and recognized Mrs. Jodie Hoover and Dr. Katelyn Willyerd on their innovative programs and support of their students.

**X. Personnel and Curriculum**

- A. Action on the approval to promote Mrs. Deborah McGinnis from Part-Time Paraprofessional to Full-Time Paraprofessional effective March 26, 2024.  
1<sup>st</sup>: Mrs. Sepesy                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab, to approve to promote Mrs. Deborah McGinnis from Part-Time Paraprofessional to Full-Time Paraprofessional effective March 26, 2024. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- B. Acknowledge the resignation of Ms. Alicia Booz, Special Education teacher, effective March 11, 2024.

Mrs. McKay acknowledged the resignation of Ms. Alicia Booz, Special Education teacher, and thanked her for her service.

- C. Acknowledge the resignation of Ms. Kelly Timco, part-time paraprofessional effective March 31, 2024.

Mrs. McKay acknowledged the resignation of Ms. Kelly Timco, part-time paraprofessional and thanked her for her service.

- D. Action on the approval to hire Ms. Jacelyn Alberts, as a High School Guidance Counselor per the FCEA Collective Bargaining Agreement, contingent upon the receipt and final review of any and all new hire paperwork.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Maxin                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Maxin, that the Board approve to hire Ms. Jacelyn Alberts, as a High School Guidance Counselor per the FCEA Collective Bargaining Agreement, contingent upon the receipt and final review of any and all new hire paperwork. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- E. Action on the approval to hire Ms. Tia Shore as a full-time clerical aide, per the Fort Cherry ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement, contingent upon the receipt and final review of any and all new hire paperwork.

1st: Mrs. Maxin                      2nd: Ms. Schwab                      Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Maxin made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab, that the Board approve to hire Ms. Tia Shore as a full-time clerical aide, per the Fort Cherry ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement, contingent upon the receipt and final review of any and all new hire paperwork. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- F. Action on the approval to pay Mr. David Buchowksi a maximum of \$3,600.00 as reimbursement for unused sick and personal days upon retirement in accordance with the rates established in the Act 93 agreement.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Miles                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Miles, which the Board approve to pay Mr. David Buchowksi a maximum of \$3,600.00 as reimbursement for unused sick and personal days upon retirement in accordance with the rates established in the Act 93 agreement. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- G. Action on the approval to pay Mrs. Patricia Fedinetz a maximum of \$6,413.00 as reimbursement for unused sick and personal days upon retirement in accordance with the rates established in the Act 93 agreement.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Gaskill                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Gaskill, which the Board approve to pay Mrs. Patricia Fedinetz a maximum of \$6,413.00 as reimbursement for unused sick and personal days upon retirement in accordance with the rates established in the Act 93 agreement. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**XI. Buildings and Grounds**

- A. Action on the approval to replace the Auditorium stage entry door from A+ Doorman for \$9,880.00 per the attached quote.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Sepesy                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Sepesy, that the Board approve to replace the Auditorium stage entry door from A+ Doorman for \$9,880.00 per the attached quote. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**XII. Transportation**

none

**XIII. Finance**

- A. Action to adopt Resolution No. 4 - 2024-03-25 - approving participation in the Department of Community and Economic Development Public School Facility Improvement Grant Program.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Sepesy                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Sepesy, to adopt Resolution No. 4 - 2024-03-25 - approving participation in the Department of Community and Economic Development Public School Facility Improvement Grant Program. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**XIV. Technology**

- A. Action on the approval to renew the District's network backup appliance warranty, software updates, and cloud storage for a three (3) year term at a cost of \$12,473.00 per the attached quote.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Ms. Herforth                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Herforth, to renew the District's network backup appliance warranty, software updates,

and cloud storage for a three (3) year term at a cost of \$12,473.00 per the attached quote. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- B. Action on the approval to purchase VM creation services for a new domain controller from CCL Technologies at a cost of \$750.00, per the attached quote.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Gaskill                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Gaskill, that the Board approve to purchase VM creation services for a new domain controller from CCL Technologies at a cost of \$750.00, per the attached quote. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- C. Action on the approval to purchase replacement UPS batteries and backup units from Bozic Communications, for \$2,265.00, per the attached quote.

1st: Mrs. Miles                      2nd: Mrs. Gaskill                      Motion: 7-0-1

Mrs. Miles made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Gaskill, that the Board approve replacement UPS batteries and backup units from Bozic Communications, for \$2,265.00, per the attached quote. Motion passed, 7-0-1, with Ms. Schwab abstaining due to conflict of interest. Abstention paperwork is filed with the Board Documents.

- D. Action on the approval to enter into a contract with Full Service Network to implement a VOIP phone system and provide service and support for a five (5) year term with an upfront fee of \$10,000.00 and a monthly cost of \$459.99, per the attached quote.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Maxin                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Maxin, that the Board approve to enter into a contract with Full Service Network to implement a VOIP phone system and provide service and support for a five (5) year term with an upfront fee of \$10,000.00 and a monthly cost of \$459.99, per the attached quote. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

## **XV. Athletics**

- A. Action on the approval of Mr. Patrick Cooper Jr. as a volunteer Junior High Football Coach, contingent upon the receipt and review of any and all clearances.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Ms. Herforth                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Herforth, to hire Mr. Patrick Cooper Jr. as a volunteer Junior High Football Coach, contingent upon the receipt and review of any and all clearances. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- B. Action on the approval of the attached three (3) year contract with UPMC to provide trainer services for the Athletic Department, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, with the first year fee of \$29,900.00.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Gaskill                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Gaskill, that the Board approve the attached three (3) year contract with UPMC to provide trainer services for the Athletic Department, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, with the first year fee of \$29,900.00. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

#### **XVI. Activities**

- A. Action on the approval to establish the Horticulture Club at the High School. The Constitution and Bylaws are attached.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Sepesy                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Sepesy, that the Board approve to establish the Horticulture Club at the High School. The Constitution and Bylaws are attached. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- B. Action on the approval to appoint Dr. Katelyn Willyerd as the faculty sponsor of the Horticulture Club.

1st: Mrs. Sepesy                      2nd: Ms. Schwab                      Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab, to approve to appoint Dr. Katelyn Willyerd as the faculty sponsor of the Horticulture Club. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

#### **XVII. Policy**

- A. Action on the second reading and approval of the following policies:

Policy 626 - Federal Fiscal Compliance

Policy 800 - Records Management

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Maxin                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Maxin, that the Board approve the second reading and approval of the following policies:

Policy 626 - Federal Fiscal Compliance

Policy 800 - Records Management

Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

#### **XVIII. Miscellaneous**

- A. Action on the approval of the Fort Cherry School District Comprehensive Plan 2024-2027.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Maxin                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Maxin, that the Board approve the Fort Cherry School District Comprehensive Plan 2024-2027. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- B. Action on the approval of the Intermediate Unit 1 IDEA policy acknowledgment as attached.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Gaskill                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Gaskill, that the Board approve the Intermediate Unit 1 IDEA policy acknowledgment as attached. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- C. Action on the approval to decline the use of IDEA part B funds to provide CEIS.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Gaskill                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Gaskill, that the Board approve to decline the use of IDEA part B funds to provide CEIS. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- D. Action on the approval to rescind the nomination for Mrs. Jodi McKay to serve on the Intermediate Unit 1 Board of Directors.

1st: Mrs. Sepesy                      2nd: Ms. Schwab                      Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab, to approve to rescind the nomination for Mrs. Jodi McKay to serve on the Intermediate Unit 1 Board of Directors. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- E. Action on the approval of the two (2) year renewal service contract between Fort Cherry School District and Frontline Education for the 2024-2025 (\$10,193.33) and 2025-2026 (\$10,702.99) school years, per the attached.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Gaskill                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Gaskill, that the Board approve the two (2) year renewal service contract between Fort Cherry School District and Frontline Education for the 2024-2025 (\$10,193.33) and 2025-2026 (\$10,702.99) school years, per the attached. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- F. Action on the approval to host Senator Camera Bartolotta's community shredding event on Saturday, August 3, 2024 from 9:30 - 11:30 AM in the High School parking lot.

1st: Mrs. Sepesy                      2nd: Ms. Schwab                      Motion: 8-0



Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab, to approve to host Senator Camera Bartolotta's community shredding event on Saturday, August 3, 2024 from 9:30 - 11:30 AM in the High School parking lot. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

G. Action on the approval of the individual student agreements with Wesley Schools as attached.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Gaskill                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Gaskill, that the Board approve the individual student agreements with Wesley Schools as attached. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

H. Action on the approval for Mr. Samosky to attend the 2024 Consortium for Public Education conference occurring on June 18 and 27; July 10 and 25; and August 6, 2024, in McKeesport, PA.

1st: Ms. Schwab                      2nd: Mrs. Sepesy                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Sepesy, that the Board approve Mr. Samosky to attend the 2024 Consortium for Public Education conference occurring on June 18 and 27; July 10 and 25; and August 6, 2024, in McKeesport, PA. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**XIX. Public Comment**

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

none

**XX. Executive Session**

none

**XXI. Adjournment**

1st: Mrs. Sepesy                      2nd: Ms. Schwab                      Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab, that the Board approve the adjournment of the Regular Meeting of March 25, 2024. Motion passed, 8-0, and the meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

  
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Mrs. Jodi McKay, Board President

  
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Mrs. Pam Staley, Board Secretary