

March 11, 2019

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL — The Board of School Directors of the Fox Chapel Area School District held its regular business meeting at Fox Chapel Area High School March 11, 2019. President Terry L. Wirginis called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Also in attendance were Vice President Nancy B. Foster; Assistant Secretary Sandra M. Garbisch; Treasurer Robert Mauro; Edith L. Cook, Ph.D.; Somer Obernauer Jr.; Lisa M. Rutkowski; Eric C. Schmidt; and Dharmesh Vyas, M.D., Ph.D.

GUESTS (March 4, 2019)

- **Music Performances** – Fairview Elementary School Chorus and Flute Solo

GUESTS (March 11, 2019)

• **“Do the Right Thing” Award – Gabriel Rongier** – Dorseyville Middle School sixth grade student Gabriel Rongier took to heart the lessons he learned about “If you see something, say something.” Through the social media app Snapchat, Gabe saw that a young girl in Texas had posted a comment that indicated that she may harm herself. He took action and called Suicide Prevention Services who then put him in touch with a patrolman in Grand Saline, Texas. As a result of Gabe’s efforts, the young girl’s life was saved. Gabe, who wants to be a SWAT officer when he grows up, said, “I feel relieved that she’s OK, and I feel like I did something good.”

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (March 11, 2019)

• **District Staffing** – **Dana Simile**, Coordinator of English Language Arts; **Daniel DiDesiderio**, Ed.D., Director of Student Achievement and Instructional Verification; **Ashley Constantine**, Ed.D., Executive Director of Elementary Education and Instruction; **Matthew Harris**, Ed.D., Executive Director of Secondary Education and Instruction; **Kimberly Pawlishak**, Business Manager; **Lisa Lang**, President of the Fox Chapel Educators Association; and **Jeremy Bennett**, President-Elect of the Fox Chapel Educators Association

• **Superintendent Spotlight** – Video produced by **Ryan Devlin**, high school multimedia teacher, featuring Fox Chapel Area’s Middle States Commission on Higher Education accreditation process from the perspective of our students, who tell us what makes the district an outstanding place to learn and grow.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT (March 4 & 11, 2019)

• **Enrollment and Fire Drills** — The Board received the enrollment and fire drills report.

Information

• **Student Candidate in Presidential Scholars Program**

Fox Chapel Area High School senior **Elizabeth Kaslewicz** has been named a candidate in the 2019 United States Presidential Scholars Program. Approximately 4,500 students from across the U.S., and 99 from Pennsylvania, have been named candidates in this year’s program.

Inclusion in the Presidential Scholars Program, begun in 1964, is one of the nation’s highest honors bestowed upon graduating high school seniors. Students are initially selected for the program based on academic achievement and having scored exceptionally well on the SAT or the ACT. The candidates must then complete an application which includes essays, self-assessments, and secondary school reports and transcripts. Candidates are evaluated based on their academic achievement, personal characteristics, leadership and service activities, and the quality and content of their essay.

About 600 students will be selected as Semifinalists in the program and then students chosen as Scholars will be notified this spring. Each year, up to 161 students are named U.S. Presidential Scholars. Scholars will be invited to Washington, D.C., in June for an expenses-paid trip to meet with government officials, educators, and other accomplished people. They will also receive the Presidential Scholars medallion at a special recognition ceremony sponsored by the White House.

• **Student Places in SkillsUSA District Competition**

A Fox Chapel Area High School/A.W. Beattie Career Center student placed in the SkillsUSA District 8 competition. Senior cosmetology student **Paige Shurina** won third place in the Esthetics category.

The District 8 regional competition was held January 21, 2019, at various locations throughout Pittsburgh. The A.W. Beattie students competed with students from nine local career and technical education schools at the district level.

“Essentially, these competitions are our sports,” A.W. Beattie SkillsUSA advisor Heather Brown said. “Instead of asking who is the best soccer player or football player, we are competing to be the best welder, the best carpenter, the best graphic designer – things to get kids excited about their potential career fields.”

Brown continued, “It’s so cool to see young people be so intense and passionate about their field that they want to compete and show their skill level off. They’re taking what they’ve learned in the classroom and trying to display proudly for people to see all across the state or the country.”

SkillsUSA is a national student organization that develops leadership skills to complement what students learn in career and technical education programs.

• **FCAHS/Beattie Students to be Inducted into National Technical Honor Society**

Three Fox Chapel Area High School students who also attend the A.W. Beattie Career Center will be inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS). The students are senior **Haley Hogan**, who is enrolled in Beattie’s Health and Nursing program, and juniors **Jon “JP” DeLuca**, enrolled in Beattie’s Emergency Response Technology program, and **Elliot McDade**, who is also in Beattie’s Health and Nursing program.

Thousands of schools and colleges have a chapter of the NTHS, which recognizes outstanding student performance and character in career and technical education. Each chapter has unique standards for induction. A.W. Beattie students must maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale in their home school districts, have at least a 93 percent grade in their career technical education program, miss no more than five days of school, have no disciplinary actions, and be a member of a service organization or participate in an extracurricular activity.

“I am extremely proud of our students,” A.W. Beattie School Counselor and NTHS Advisor Kim Zylinski said. “They work very hard in their district as well as their career program to earn this opportunity. These students go on to do great things in the world and often return to Beattie to help continue the school’s mission to prepare students to be college and career ready.”

The 65 Beattie inductees will join 25 students who have been a member of the NTHS for at least one year at an upcoming ceremony March 13, 2019, at 6 p.m. at the A.W. Beattie Career Center.

“Hard work should be recognized, which is why the ceremony is important,” Ms. Zylinski said. “It is a reminder that our student body are extraordinary young men and women who possess talents and skills that are valued in today’s society.”

• **Students Win Awards at Regional PJAS**

Several Fox Chapel Area students won second-place and special awards at the 85th Annual Region 7 Meeting of the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS).

Fox Chapel Area second-place winners were: juniors **Hanna Chen**, **Serena Fisher**, and **Anzu Sekikawa**; sophomores **Jackson Romero**, **Elizabeth Schwartzman**, and **Nishi Thawani**; freshmen **Theodor Urban** and **Siddharth Yende**; eighth graders **Aiden Dorneich** and **Prajval Sreenivas**; and seventh graders **Rose Mullan** and **Parv Tahiliani**.

The following Fox Chapel Area High School students received these special awards: senior **Kathryn Schwartzman** received a PJAS Perseverance Award; junior **Rajeev Godse** won a Director’s Award in Behavioral Science; junior **Zeynep Ozkaya** received a Duquesne University Program in Forensic Science and Law Award; sophomore **Sanjay Seshan** won a Carnegie Mellon University Civil and Engineering Department – Chi Epsilon Award; sophomore **Dong Hyun “Simon” Shin** received a Duquesne University Department of Math and Computer Science Award; and freshman **Zoe Lakkis** won a PJAS Perfect Score Award and a PJAS Director’s Award for Mathematics.

The following Dorseyville Middle School students received these special awards: eighth grader **Arvind Seshan** received an American Vacuum Society Special Award, a Bechtel Physics Award, and a Duquesne University Science of Excellence Award; and seventh grader **Adhitya Thirumala** won a Duquesne University Science of Excellence Award.

The participating students (from several schools from Allegheny and Westmoreland counties) researched their science projects for several months. During the competition, each of the students was required to give an oral presentation on his or her science project in front of a panel of judges. The regional competition was held at Duquesne University February 2.

• **Student Places Third in PSA Contest**

Fox Chapel Area High School junior **Grace Han** won third place in the FBI Pittsburgh's 2018-19 HOPE (Heroin Outreach Prevention and Education) PSA Contest. The competition was sponsored by the Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation and the FBI Citizens Academy Alumni Association. For the contest, Grace created a PSA-awareness video entitled "Myths NOT to Live By" that won third place in the Judge's Choice category. Grace was awarded a \$1,500 grant to support the district's AV/media programs, in order to enhance students' learning experiences through community safety projects. She also won five VIP party suite tickets to attend the February 5, 2019, Pittsburgh Penguins' game.

The award-winning videos can be viewed at <https://fbipghcaaa.org/hope/youth/psacontest/winners/>.

The goal of the Penguins' and the FBI's partnership is to challenge youth to find creative and innovative ways to raise awareness on the dangers of fentanyl and prescription opioid abuse and heroin use. A total of 37 entries were submitted by students from schools across the Pittsburgh area.

• **High School Students Win Regional Scholastic Writing Awards**

Two Fox Chapel Area High School students won awards for their submissions to the Pittsburgh Regional Scholastic Writing Awards 2019 competition. Senior **Margaret Fletcher** received two Silver Keys and an honorable mention for her writings, and junior **Gwendolyn Davison** won four honorable mentions for her writings.

Hundreds of entries, spanning a variety of different genres of writing, were received from students from across Allegheny County. The winning students were recognized at the Regional Writing Awards Ceremony February 23 that was held in the Frick Fine Arts Auditorium at the University of Pittsburgh. Excerpts from their work were also displayed as part of the celebration.

The local competition is sponsored by the Western Pennsylvania Writing Project. The Project is a nonprofit, teacher-centered professional development program serving area schools and students. It is hosted by the University of Pittsburgh's School of Education and is a long-standing affiliate of the National Writing Project. The group partners with schools and community organizations in its efforts to strengthen academic and public literacy.

• **Students Win Regional 2019 Scholastic Art Awards**

Several Fox Chapel Area School District students won awards for their entries in the Pittsburgh Arts Region of the Scholastic Art Awards of 2019.

The Fox Chapel Area Silver Key winners were seniors **Lauren Copeland** (two Silver Keys), **Rachel Himmel**, **Margaux Miller** (two Silver Keys), **Chelsea Taylor**, **Glenna Van Dyke**, **Kaitlyn Veltri**, and **Seo Yeon Wang** (four Silver Keys); juniors **Amelia Bothe** (three Silver Keys), **Paige Shema**, and **Anzu Sekikawa** (two Silver Keys); and sophomores **Isabella Hamm**, **Jessica McCann** (two Silver Keys), and **Kaylea Rodman**.

The Fox Chapel Area Honorable Mention winners were seniors **Rudi Adamiak**, **Kate Carnevale**, Lauren Copeland (three Honorable Mentions), Rachel Himmel, **Emma Kazmierczak** (two Honorable Mentions, including one for her eight-piece portfolio), Margaux Miller (two Honorable Mentions), **Michela Nicholas**, **Sofia Porter Bacon** (two Honorable Mentions), **Madeline Richards** (two Honorable Mentions, including one for her eight-piece portfolio), Kaitlyn Veltri, and Seo Yeon Wang (eight Honorable Mentions); juniors **Nicholas Guy**, **Fiona Healy**, Anzu Sekikawa (four Honorable Mentions), and **William Urso** (two Honorable Mentions); sophomores **Emma Begg** (two Honorable Mentions) and **Alexandra Catania**; freshman **Hannah Shepherd**; and Dorseyville Middle School eighth grader **Jonathan Li**.

The regional award winners were selected by a panel of distinguished judges which included artists, art educators, and art professionals. A show featuring the works of all of the winners was on display in February at Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC) North. All of the Fox Chapel Area students were honored at a special ceremony, along with the other Pittsburgh Arts Region winners, February 23 at the college.

The Fox Chapel Area High School art teachers are **Joan Marangoni**, **Mary Jo Montgomery**, **Christine Smith**, **Sarah Stewart**, and **Amy Wickman**. The Dorseyville Middle School art teachers are **Cheryl Etters**, **Nanci Goldberg**, and **Mackenzie Seymour**.

•Students Place at West Allegheny Forensic Tournament

Three Fox Chapel Area High School students placed at the West Allegheny Michael Quinn Memorial Speech and Debate Tournament. Fifth place awards went to junior **Jackson Boychuk** in Student Congress, junior **Angelique Uku** in Informative Speaking, and sophomore **Suparna Agrawal** in Extemporaneous Speaking.

The West Allegheny Michael Quinn Memorial Speech and Debate Tournament was held February 16, 2019, at West Allegheny High school. Approximately 250 students representing 26 high schools from Western Pennsylvania competed at the tournament.

•High School Students Place at Duquesne Model UN Conference

Two Fox Chapel Area High School students won second-place at the Duquesne University Model United Nations (UN) Conference. The team of senior **Tristan McClelland** and sophomore **Cecilia Rike** won an Excellent Delegation award (second-place) at the conference.

The conference was held January 25, 2019, at Duquesne University and 330 students from 21 Western Pennsylvania high schools participated in the event.

The purpose of the Model UN conferences is to enable students to role-play and simulate the countries in the United Nations. As a part of the conferences, students debate and try to solve global problems from the perspectives of other countries.

•Fox Chapel Area School Board Upcoming Meetings

April 8, 2019 – 7 p.m. – Combined Agenda Study Session & Reg. Business Mtg. – High School LGI Room

May 6, 2019 – 7 p.m. – Combined Agenda Study Session & Reg. Business Mtg. – Dorseyville MS Auditorium

June 3, 2019 – 7 p.m. – Agenda Study Session – O’Hara Elementary School Auditorium

June 10, 2019 – 7 p.m. – Regular Business Meeting – Fox Chapel Area High School LGI Room

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Approved the minutes of the regular business meeting dated February 11, 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENTS — Anyone wishing to make a public comment was asked to complete the sign-in sheet upon arrival at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS — The superintendent recommended that action be taken on the following items of business:

Facilities/Transportation

JML Landscape Management – Agreements — Ratified the agreements between the Fox Chapel Area School District and JML Landscape Management for landscape services for the period January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2020, at a total cost of \$130,384.00 per year. These agreements are for Fox Chapel Area High School, Dorseyville Middle School, Fairview Elementary School, Hartwood Elementary School, and O’Hara Elementary School.

School Bus Driver Approval – 2018-2019 School Year — Approved the drivers to operate school buses for the Fox Chapel Area School District for the 2018-2019 school year. All drivers’ credentials meet the requirements of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Finance

Disbursements (A) — The general fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$6,309,420.84 from February 1, 2019, through February 28, 2019, were approved.

Disbursements (B) — The GO Bond Series 2017 Construction Fund disbursements (Fund 33) in the amount of \$1,593,664.25 for February 2019 were approved.

Disbursements (C) — The capital projects fund disbursements (Fund 31) in the amount of \$19,605.50 for February 2019 were approved.

Finance Report — The finance report for January 2019 was acknowledged and filed for audit.

Budget Transfers — Several budget transfers for 2018-2019 were approved.

Allegheny Intermediate Unit – 2019-2020 Program of Services Budget — The Board approved the proposed 2019-2020 Allegheny Intermediate Unit Program of Services Budget in the amount of \$2,144,656.00, upon the recommendation of the administration. The Allegheny County (AIU3) school districts’ total contribution to the budget is \$1,811,545.00. The Fox Chapel Area School District contribution to the Program of Services Budget is estimated to be \$100,088.00 and will be determined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education according to the District Aid Ratio and Weighted Average Daily Membership (WADM).

Asset Control Solutions, Inc. – Agreement — Approved the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Asset Control Solutions, Inc., for the management of fixed assets effective March 11, 2019, at an annual cost of \$10,000.00.

Appropriation to Fox Chapel Crew, Inc. — Approved a motion to appropriate to Fox Chapel Crew, Inc., an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00. Any monies disbursed shall be an advance on the annual subsidy approved for this club.

2019-2020 Allegheny County Schools Health Insurance Consortium Rates – Information — The Allegheny County Schools Health Insurance Consortium approved rates are effective July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020. The Community Blue Flex PPO and EPO rate increase is 1.9%. The United Concordia Flex increase is 2%, and Davis Vision rate increase is 7%.

<u>Monthly Coverage</u>	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Parent/Child</u>	<u>Parent/Children</u>	<u>Employee/Spouse</u>	<u>Family</u>
Community Blue Flex PPO	\$608.47	\$1,364.21	\$1,500.63	\$1,652.96	\$1,718.63
Community Blue Flex EPO	\$568.42	\$1,274.98	\$1,402.45	\$1,544.17	\$1,605.61
United Concordia Flex	\$ 27.24				\$ 89.57
Davis Vision	\$ 5.22				\$ 12.75

Instruction

2019-2020 School District Calendar — Approved the 2019-2020 school district calendar. The calendar can be viewed on the district’s website at www.fcasd.edu.

Course Changes

High School — Approved the following secondary program course change for Fox Chapel Area High School, effective for the 2019-2020 school year:

- Health and Physical Education – “Recreational Fitness” and “Personal Fitness” (two physical education courses) to “Recreational Fitness and Sports.”

Middle School — Approved the following secondary program course change for Dorseyville Middle School, effective for the 2019-2020 school year:

- Computer Science – “Computer Science 7” to “CS Game Design.”

Course Additions

High School — Approved the following secondary program pilot course for Fox Chapel Area High School for the 2019-2020 school year, with the intention to implement for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Health and Physical Education – “Introduction to Sport and Exercise Science.”

Middle School — Approved the following secondary program pilot courses for Dorseyville Middle School for the 2019-2020 school year, with the intention to implement for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Computer Science – “Introduction to Python” and “Python” and
- Music – “Music Production and Careers.”

Legislation/Policy

Policy Attachment – Revised — Approved the following revised policy attachment:

- No. 626 Attachment: Procurement – Federal Programs. (This is an attachment to Policy No. 626 – Federal Fiscal Compliance.)

Personnel

Candidates for employment under this section were approved subject to verification of the results of physical and drug screening examinations, required clearances, and all other essential employment requirements under Policy and Administrative Regulations 304-AR and 304-AR-4.

Resignations

Supplemental Contracts – Athletic — Accepted the following athletic supplemental contract resignations:

- **Michelle J. Couch**, field hockey head coach at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to personal reasons, effective February 14, 2019.
- **Mary Jo Montgomery**, Activity Sponsor #10 Intramurals at Dorseyville Middle School, due to personal reasons, effective at the end of the 2018-2019 school year.
- **Mary Jo Montgomery**, Activity Sponsor #14 (25%) Intramurals at Dorseyville Middle School, due to personal reasons, effective at the end of the 2018-2019 school year.

Leaves

Professional — Approved the following professional leaves:

- **Audrey-Marie Masci**, elementary teacher at Hartwood Elementary School, for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective April 22, 2019, with return scheduled for the first day of the 2019-2020 school year.
- **Jessica C. Papcunik**, computer science teacher at Hartwood Elementary School, for childrearing/adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective May 14, 2019, with return scheduled for the first day of the second nine weeks of the 2019-2020 school year.

Appointment

Supplemental Contract – Non-Athletic — Ratified the following non-athletic supplemental contract, effective January 21, 2019: **Douglas R. Kitay** – Mentor Teacher – DMS.

Operations/Cooperative Services

Change Orders – Kerr Elementary School Project — Approved change orders GC-008, GC-009, GC-010, PC-001, and TDC-001 at a total cost of \$84,197.85 for the Kerr Elementary School project pending PDE approval of Plancon Part I.

Precision HR Solutions, Inc. – Addendum — Ratified the addendum to the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and Precision HR Solutions, Inc., effective February 1, 2019, to furnish day-to-day substitute cafeteria workers to the district for the period July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2021.

Fox Chapel Killer Whales, Inc. – Agreement and Lease — Approved the agreement and lease between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Fox Chapel Killer Whales, Inc., effective September 1, 2019, through August 31, 2024.

Award of Exterior Door and Hardware Replacement Contract – Fairview Elementary School — Approved awarding the contract to the following bidder on the Fairview Elementary School exterior door and hardware replacement project conditioned upon the contractor completing its post-bid award documents: AB Specialties Inc., for the General Construction Contract, with a base bid amount of \$192,800.00 and accepting Alternate GC-01 in the amount of \$23,900.00, for a total contract award of \$216,700.00.

Donation – Flute — Accepted the donation of a WT Armstrong flute to the Fox Chapel Area High School band program with a current value of \$2,000.00 from **Beth Butler**.

Plancon Part G – Project Accounting Based on Bids – Information – Kerr Elementary School Project — Acknowledged that the materials for Plancon Part G, Project Accounting Based on Bids for the Kerr Elementary School project, have been reviewed and approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT — The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

The Fox Chapel Area School District is an equal rights and opportunity school district. The school district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, or handicap/disability. The district shall make reasonable accommodations for identified physical and mental impairments that constitute disabilities, consistent with the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations.

Additional information pertaining to civil rights, school district policies, and grievance procedures can be obtained by contacting the compliance officers listed below between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. This notice is available from the compliance officers in large print, on audiotape, and in Braille.

Title IX: David P. McCommons, Ed.D. (412/967-2456)
Section 504 and ADA: Timothy A. Mahoney (412/967-2435)
Address: Fox Chapel Area School District, 611 Field Club Road, Pgh., PA 15238