

October 14, 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 October 14, 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 Lisa M. Rutkowski; Edith L. Cook, Ph.D.; Adam G. Goode; Somer Obernauer Jr.; and Eric C. Schmidt.

GUESTS (October 7, 2019)

Certificates of Merit — The Board presented certificates of merit to the following students:

• Fourteen Fox Chapel Area High School seniors have been designated as National Merit Semifinalists and 12 have been named Commended Students in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). The Semifinalists from Fox Chapel Area High School are **Paige Asbury, Amelia Bothe, Hanna Chen, J. Oliver Choo, Hazel Cline, Oskar Ernharth, Claire Fenton, Rajeev Godse, Noah Hertzman, Christiana Paljug, Sina Shaikh, Jake Sperry, Felix Vesper, and Aaron Wu.** The Commended Students from Fox Chapel Area High School are **Jackson Boychuk, Rachel Ferris, Evan Gu, Abigail Miller, Zeynep Ozkaya, Leda Perdriel-Arons, Anzu Sekikawa, David Shin, Shane Susnak, Ameya Velankar, William Wang, and Michael Weiss.**

All of these students were selected based on their 2018 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®) scores. Each year, college-bound 11th grade students complete the PSAT/NMSQT. The more than 1.5 million juniors who take the test are automatically enrolled in the National Merit Scholarship Program and approximately 16,000 advance to become Semifinalists and about 34,000 are Commended. The Semifinalists represent less than one percent of the nation's high school seniors and the Commended Students represent the top five percent. A Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT® or ACT® scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test. The Commended Students are recognized for their exceptional academic promise. The Semifinalists now have the opportunity to advance to the Finalist level and compete for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarship® awards worth more than \$31 million to be offered in the spring of 2020.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

• **Superintendent Spotlight** — Video produced by **Ryan Devlin**, high school multimedia teacher, featuring the global immersion partnership between O'Hara Elementary School and Peking University Elementary School, which brought 22 fifth-graders from China to Fox Chapel Area for two weeks in September.

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

Information

High School Receives National Award from Special Olympics

Fox Chapel Area High School has been selected as a 2019 National Banner Unified Champion School by Special Olympics. This prestigious honor is given by the international headquarters of Special Olympics to only a small number of schools that demonstrate a commitment to meaningful inclusion and quality Unified Champion Schools programming.

These designated schools demonstrate a commitment to inclusion by meeting 10 standards of excellence. Those standards are centered around inclusion, acceptance, and respect and were developed by a national panel of leaders from Special Olympics and the education community.

Approximately 125 schools throughout the country were honored with this recognition for 2019, and only two are from Pennsylvania. Fox Chapel Area High School is the first school in Allegheny County to ever receive this designation.

According to an email from the President and CEO of Special Olympics Pennsylvania Matthew Aaron, the recognition is a "testament of what each of you, the coaches, staff, and your students, do in your school community every day. ... Your high school has an enriching and nurturing climate which exudes a sense of collaboration, engagement, and respect for all members of the student body and staff."

Additionally, in early September, Fox Chapel Area High School was named to the Special Olympics – ESPN Honor Roll for 2019. This is a list of the top 34 schools from across the country, chosen as part of ESPN’s Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools National Recognition Program. According to ESPN, “The aim of Unified Champion Schools is to incorporate Special Olympics sports, leadership and related activities that empower the youth to be the agents of change in their communities. Thus, the focus shifts from the events to that of a whole school movement for inclusion.”

According to Fox Chapel Area School District’s Director of Special Education and Pupil Services Tim Mahoney, the award is a tribute to the entire school community, including students, staff, administrators, and parents.

“I am so incredibly excited and proud of this designation,” he said. “This is another example of how inclusive our students, staff, and community are, and how collaboration enables us to provide the best experiences for our Fox Chapel Area families.”

Of note, Fox Chapel Area is the first school district in Allegheny County to have a Unified Track team which was established during the 2018-2019 school year. The high school also has had a Unified Bocce team since the 2017-2018 school year. These teams include students with and without disabilities and these athletes work side by side in both training and competition.

A special celebration will be held at Fox Chapel Area High School later this fall where the school will be receiving the Unified Champion Schools national banner.

•Fox Chapel Area Students and Graduates Named AP Scholars

A total of 165 current Fox Chapel Area High School students and 2019 graduates have been named Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars by the College Board for demonstrating college-level achievement on the AP examinations taken in May 2019. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on the number of courses and exams. At Fox Chapel Area High School:

—2019 graduates **Vaishavi Agrawal, Daniel Andrud, Abigail Baldauf, Arnav Gupta, Marissa Hardiman, Theresa Heidenreich, Rachel Himmel, Jayanth Kashyap, Elizabeth Kaslewicz, Zachary Lakkis, Tristan McClelland, Mitchell Miles, Ryan Setzenfand, Annika Urban, Ziya Xu,** and **Chloe Yofan** and 2019-2020 seniors **J. Oliver Choo, Rajeev Godse, Noah Hertzman, Sina Shaikh,** and **Aaron Wu** qualified for the National AP Scholar award by earning an average score of 4 or higher on all AP exams taken, and scores of four or higher on eight or more AP exams.

—The following graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction award by earning an average score of 3.5 or higher on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams: 2019 graduates **Vaishavi Agrawal, Mattias Ahlers, Daniel Andrud, Margaret Aupke, Abigail Baldauf, Isabella Boleng, Benjamin Cagan, Diana Crookston, Rodrigo Esteves, Kevin Falconett, Luis Fernandez Trevino, Noah Fritsch, Gabriel Fynsk, Flora Gladwin, Jonah Green, Arnav Gupta, Eric Gurklis, Colin Hackwelder, Marissa Hardiman, Sanjana Harish, Megan Hayes, Theresa Heidenreich, Hannah Higgins, Rachel Himmel, Jayanth Kashyap, Elizabeth Kaslewicz, Meredith Kenney, Sarah Khanzada, Trevor Klatt, Zachary Lakkis, Sadie Lorence, Tristan McClelland, Catherine McDonough, Alexandra Meinert, Alyssa Melani, Mitchell Miles, Eric Moore, Jared Nord, Jessica Paper, Olivia Pistella, Nathaniel Roe, Ryan Setzenfand, Grace Stassola, Annika Urban, Gina Wang, Landon Williams, Ziya Xu, Erasmia Yager,** and **Chloe Yofan** and 2019-2020 seniors **Jackson Boychuk, Hanna Chen, J. Oliver Choo, Claire Fenton, Rajeev Godse, Hannah Gordon, Evan Gu, Noah Hertzman, Gavin Hitchens, Henry Jacques, Adrien Lagasse, Megan Matthis, Molly Mozurak, Min Nishikawa, Zeynep Ozkaya, Anzu Sekikawa, Sina Shaikh, Jake Sperry, Olivia Tang, Felix Veser, William Wang,** and **Aaron Wu.**

—The following graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor award by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams: 2019 graduates **Avery Bursick, Hannah Flanders, Anna Folkerts, Margaret Fox, Alaina Kotchey, Zachary Lichtenstein, Connor McAtee, Sabrina McQuarrie, Demi Rymer, Kathryn Schwartzman, Reed Seybolt,** and **Zachary Yonas** and 2019-2020 seniors **Abigail Alexander, Paige Asbury, Alyssa Carnevali, Hazel Cline, Gwendolyn Davison, Hannah Drum, Blair Echnat, Rachel Ferris, Alayne Gaghan, Elizabeth Gay, William Generett, Bryn Gerlach, Elizabeth Giuffre, John Klamut, Anna Meyer, Christiana Paljug, Jacob Rendall, Preston Rowe, Aaron Santilli, Benjamin Schwartz, David Shin, Charles Smith, Shane Susnak, Helene Tracey,** and **Ameya Velankar.**

—The following graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar award by receiving scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams: 2019 graduates **Sofia Porter Bacon, Emily Ben, Madison Borkovich, Kate Carnevale, Lauren Copeland, Wesley Fravel, Nicole Garcia-Tunon, Matthew Good, Ruth Hartmann, Cara Himmel, Jonathan Hopkins, Eui Il Jung, Ryan Kerr, Michael Kilmer, Hannah Kim, Maria Luciana, Adina Munin, Madeline Richards, Julie Scheffler, Sarena Seeger, Jonathan Simon, Michael Trageser, Reiss Veltri, and Kenyon Weis**; 2019-2020 seniors **Ethan Alfery, Macey Balk, Amelia Bothe, Marilyn Brach, Mia Catone, Jacob Correnti, Gwendolyn Cullen, Claire Cummings, Samantha Dockey, Oskar Ernhardt, Tobias Fennell, Harrison Hamm, Jeffrey Hertzberg, Patrick Kiszka, Ian Lowe, Cameron Mackey-Piccolo, Michael Mendelson, Shando Naini, Pabla Navjot, Thaleia Papapetropoulou, Leda Perdriel-Arons, James Peterson, Karl Pil, Emily Pollock, Michael Prato, Linda Quinlan, Mario Rotunno, Haylee Stringer, Robert Tabor, Thomas Traub, and Thomas Tsai**; and 2019-2020 juniors **Vinisha Sant and Vivian Shao**.

Advanced Placement exams are graded on a 5-point scale, with 5 being the highest. Most of the nation's four-year colleges and universities award credit and/or advanced placement for qualifying exam scores. Every year, AP examinations are offered in a wide variety of subject areas, each consisting of multiple choice and free-response (essay or problem-solving) questions.

•Student Named Among Top 300

Fox Chapel Area High School freshman **Arvind Seshan** was recently named among the Top 300 middle school innovators in the ninth annual Broadcom MASTERS® – the nation's premier Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) competition for middle school students.

The Top 300 students (including 16 from Pennsylvania) were selected from 2,348 applicants from 47 states, DC, and two US territories. Entries were evaluated by a panel of distinguished scientists, engineers, and educators and judged on creativity and originality of their science fair project, their ability to engage in analysis of data, and their understanding of STEM principles as they relate to the real world. Arvind was chosen based on his first-place project from the Covestro Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair submitted in March 2019 when he was an eighth-grader at Dorseyville Middle School.

“Through the Broadcom MASTERS and the Society's network of science fairs, we are able to identify and inspire exceptional middle school scientists and engineers from across the country,” said Paula Golden, president of the Broadcom Foundation. “I'm honored to congratulate the Top 300 Broadcom MASTERS who are poised to take on our world's grand challenges.”

In recognition of their achievements, the Top 300 Broadcom MASTERS received a special prize package. In recognition of the role that teachers play in the success of their students, each designated teacher also received an award.

The Broadcom MASTERS is a program of Society for Science & the Public, and MASTERS stands for Math, Applied Science, Technology and Engineering for Rising Stars.

•Fox Chapel Area School Board Upcoming Meetings

November 4, 2019 – 7 p.m. – Agenda Study Session – High School LGI Room

November 11, 2019 – 7 p.m. – Regular Business Meeting – High School LGI Room

December 3, 2019 (Tues.) – 7 p.m. – Reorg. Mtg. & Comb. Agenda Study Sess. & Reg. Bus. Mtg. – HS LGI Room

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Approved the minutes of the combined agenda study session and regular business meeting dated September 9, 2019; the minutes of the special meeting dated September 16, 2019; and the minutes of the special meeting dated October 3, 2019. Prior to approval, Dr. Cook made a motion to table the September 16, 2019, minutes for clarification on the wording of a motion. There was no second and the motion failed.

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:

Finance

Disbursements (A) — The general fund disbursements (Fund 10) in the amount of \$12,244,069.97 from September 1, 2019, through September 30, 2019, were approved.

Disbursements (B) — The GO Bond Series 2017 Construction Fund disbursements (Fund 33) in the amount of \$1,300,423.98 for September 2019 were approved.

Disbursements (C) — The capital projects fund disbursements (Fund 31) in the amount of \$1,018,321.70 for September 2019 were approved.

Interfund Transfer — Approved an interfund transfer from Fund 10 (General Fund) to Fund 31 (Capital Projects Fund) in the amount of \$483,000.00 to cover costs related to the parking lot improvements at O'Hara Elementary School and Fox Chapel Area High School, and the exterior doors replacement project at Fairview Elementary School.

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

Budget Transfers — Several budget transfers for 2019-2020 were approved.

AdvanEdge Solutions, Inc. – E-Rate Consulting Services – Agreement — Approved the agreement with AdvanEdge Solutions, Inc. for E-Rate consulting services for funding year 2020-2021 at a cost of \$8,996.00.

Claims Compensation Bureau, LLC – Claim Service Agreement — Approved the agreement with Claims Compensation Bureau, LLC effective October 15, 2019.

Instruction

Allegheny Intermediate Unit – Title IIA Non-Public School Agreements — Approved the agreements between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit to provide Title IIA professional development services to the following non-public schools for the 2019-2020 school year: Blessed Trinity Academy, Fox Chapel Country Day School, Shady Side Academy Middle School, and Shady Side Academy Senior School.

Stipulated Adjudication — Approved the stipulated adjudication for an unnamed student dated October 2, 2019.

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

Food Services — Accepted the following food services resignation:

- **Angelic L. Gale**, food services employee at Kerr Elementary School, due to personal reasons, effective September 26, 2019.

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

- **James W. Muir**, assistant softball coach at Dorseyville Middle School, due to personal reasons, effective September 25, 2019.
- **Vernon T. Yenick**, head diving coach at Fox Chapel Area High School, due to personal reasons, effective September 20, 2019.

Appointments

Educational Support — Ratified the following personal care assistant appointment:

- **LaTonda L. Bey** as a personal care assistant at Dorseyville Middle School, effective September 16, 2019. Salary was set based on the salary scale for personal care assistants, Step 1, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the retirement of **Brenda Nahrwold**.

Food Services

- **Giuseppe Montemurro** as a permanent, part-time (three hours per day) food services employee in the Fox Chapel Area High School cafeteria. Hourly wage was set based on the salary scale for food services employees, General Food Worker 3, with no fringe benefits, effective September 9, 2019. This position is available due to the change of status of **Becky Panza**.

Supplemental Contracts – Non-Athletic — The following non-athletic supplemental contracts were ratified for 2019-2020 school term: **Brianna M. Amoscato** – Student Government Sponsor – Hartwood (50%); **Jill C. Bennett** – Best Buddies Sponsor – DMS (50%) (Leave Replacement); **Jacqueline J. Decker** – Student Government Sponsor – Hartwood (50%); **Sarah E. Everest** – Student Government Sponsor – Fairview (50%); **Karen A. Fornari** – Bus Monitor #1 – O’Hara; **Megan L. Glies** – Mentor Teacher; **Amy J. Jakubek** – Student Government Sponsor – Kerr (33%); **James W. Jones** – Overnight Camp Counselor – Hartwood; **Richard G. Mathieu** – Bus Monitor #2 – O’Hara; **Julie A. Perrotte** – Elementary Choral Director – O’Hara; **Michael E. Rowe** – Student Government Sponsor – Fairview (50%); **Diana M. Sayre-Dolan** – Student Government Class Caucus Sponsor 4 – HS; **Stanley S. Strzempek** – Student Government Sponsor – Kerr (33%); **Christopher S. Studebaker** – English/Language Arts Dept. Head – DMS; **Stacey E. Trpcic** – Student Government Sponsor – Kerr (33%); **Kristi E. Vacanti** – Bus Monitor #3 – O’Hara; and **Kayla M. Warmbein** – Student Government Sponsor – O’Hara.

Change of Status

Educational Support — Ratified the following personal care assistant change of status:

- **Erik C. Ingram**, personal care assistant at Fox Chapel Area High School, as an instructional assistant at Fox Chapel Area High School, effective September 23, 2019. Salary was set based on the salary scale for instructional assistants, Step 2, with benefits as per the Fox Chapel Area Education Support Professionals Association Collective Bargaining Agreement. This position is available due to the resignation of **Melissa Couch**.

Food Services — Ratified the following food services changes of status:

- **Annette C. Kline**, permanent, part-time (three hours per day) food services employee in the O’Hara Elementary School cafeteria, as a full-time (7.5 hours per day) food services employee at Fox Chapel Area High School. Hourly wage was set based on the salary scale for food services employees, general food worker 7, with fringe benefits, effective September 9, 2019. This position is available due to the resignation of **Diane Diulus**.
- **Becky F. Panza**, permanent, part-time (three hours per day) food services employee in the Fox Chapel Area High School cafeteria, as a full-time (7.75 hours per day) food services employee at Fox Chapel Area High School. Hourly wage was set based on the salary scale for food services employees, general food worker 7, with fringe benefits, effective August 19, 2019. This position is available due to the retirement of **Nora Haley**.

Volunteer

Athletic — The following athletic volunteer was ratified, effective October 1, 2019: **Quintin P. Wirginis** – High School Football.

Employment Agreement

Information Management Specialist and Testing Facilitator — Approved the employment of **Bobbie L. Rothery** as the information management specialist and testing facilitator for the Fox Chapel Area School District, effective October 29, 2019, per the employment agreement. This position is available due to the retirement of **Janet Byrnes**. Prior to voting on this item, Dr. Cook made a motion to separate out this particular item and vote on it separately. The motion passed and the Board voted on this item separately.

Personnel Information Item:

Rescindment — The employment of **Paula J. Scott**, hired provisionally, effective October 1, 2019, pending completion of employment requirements, was rescinded, effective September 20, 2019, due to failure to complete the employment requirements.

Operations/Cooperative Services

Fox Chapel Area School District Comprehensive Plan — Approved the district’s Comprehensive Plan for the period July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2023. The plan will be submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) for review through the Comprehensive Plan Portal. **The plan was posted for the 28-day review period both at the administrative offices and a local library (Cooper-Siegel Community Library) per PDE requirements. Additionally, the plan was posted on the district website.**

School Board Meeting – Revision – November 4 — Approved the change of location for the School Board agenda study session meeting scheduled for November 4, 2019, at Kerr Elementary School to now be held in the LGI Room at Fox Chapel Area High School.

School Board Meeting – Revision – December 3 — Approved that the December 3, 2019, School Board reorganization meeting will begin at 7 p.m., immediately followed by the combined agenda study session and regular business meeting.

Change Orders – Kerr Elementary School Project — Approved change orders GC-025, GC-026, GC-027, FSE-001, CC-002, HC-001, EC-008, EC-009, and TDC-006 at a total cost of \$135,928.89 for the Kerr Elementary School project pending PDE approval of Plancon Part I.

Change Orders – O’Hara Elementary School Campus – Parking Lots, Sidewalks, Related Stormwater Drains, and Lighting Improvements — Approved change orders PC-001, PC-002, and EC-001 at a total cost of \$45,961.57 for the O’Hara Elementary School parking lot improvement project.

ALICE Training Institute LLC – Master Subscription Agreement — Approved the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the ALICE Training Institute LLC to provide Elearning subscription services for the term November 1, 2019, through June 30, 2022, at a total cost of \$16,110.67.

Omnigo Software, LLC – Subscription Services — Approved the proposal from Omnigo Software, LLC to provide Omnigo Education dispatch and records management system to the Fox Chapel Area School District School Police Officers effective October 14, 2019, through June 15, 2021, at a total cost of \$14,083.00.

Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) – Service Agreement for Customized Workshop — Ratified the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) to provide a customized workshop on the topic of Using Social Media Responsibly for District Leadership, at a cost of \$800.00. **This workshop was held at the Fox Chapel Area School District administrative offices on October 7, 2019, for the Board and district administrators.**

Award of Contracts – Fox Chapel Area High School Parking Lot Improvement Project — Approved to award the contracts to the following bidders on the Fox Chapel Area High School parking lot improvement project for paving, underdrainage, and lighting, conditioned upon the contractors completing their post-bid award documents:

- to Shields Asphalt Paving, Inc., for the general construction contract, with a base bid amount of \$1,634,005.88; and
- to Merit Electrical Group, Inc., for the electrical construction contract, with a base bid amount of \$211,300.00.

FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT — The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 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