

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 12, 2018

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular business meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fox Chapel Area School District was called to order by President, Terry L. Wirginis, at 7:00 p.m. on February 12, 2018, in the LGI Room at the Fox Chapel Area High School.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**ROLL-CALL**

The Board members present at roll call were Messrs. Mauro, Obernauer, Schmidt, Vyas, and Wirginis, Dr. Cook and Mrs. Garbisch. Absent were Mrs. Foster and Mrs. Rutkowski. Also present were Dr. Freeman, Dr. McCommons, Mr. Giuffre, and Mrs. Anuszek. Other members of the public were present.

**GUESTS**

There were no guests.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

• **Student Magazine Wins National Award**

Fox Chapel Area High School's 2016-2017 literary arts magazine "Tapestry" received a national award. The magazine was named a first-place winner in the 2017 American Scholastic Press Association's Annual Contest/Review for Scholastic Yearbooks, Magazines and Newspapers. Additionally, 2017-2018 sophomore Anzu Sekikawa received recognition for "Outstanding Art" for her artwork entitled "Japanese Dream."

The 2016-2017 student editors of "Tapestry" were 2017 graduates Emma Paulini (editor-in-chief), Rachel Gorby, and David Han; current 2017-2018 seniors Karissa Becer, Sally Dean, Shania Khatri, Philip Kim, Helen Paulini, and Anna Paviglianiti; and current 2017-2018 juniors Arnav Gupta, Emma Kazmierczak, Demi Rymer, and Chloe Yofan. The students' advisor is Fox Chapel Area High School language arts teacher Jessica Green.

• **Student Named Winner in Benjamin Franklin Essay Contest**

Fox Chapel Area High School junior Annika Urban has been named a winner of the Eleventh Annual Benjamin Franklin Scholar Award. Annika was named a third-place winner for her essay entitled, "The Hidden Dangers of Persistence." She will receive a \$2,000 award and be honored at The Pennsylvania Society Annual Meeting June 1, 2018, in Erie, Pennsylvania.

The award is part of a writing competition open to all Pennsylvania public school juniors in good standing. Students submit an original essay discussing the modern-day relevance of a selected quotation by Franklin. This year's quote was "Energy and persistence conquer all things." Essays are reviewed by judges named by the Pennsylvania Association of School Counselors, the Pennsylvania Association of Elementary and Secondary School Principals, and the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

The award is sponsored by The Pennsylvania Society, a nonprofit, charitable organization with more than 2,000 members. Its purpose is to honor achievement, reward excellence, promote goodwill and understanding, and celebrate service to the commonwealth of Pennsylvania and to humanity in general. Thriving and still growing in its third century of existence, the society is the longest-lived organization of its kind in the country.

• **Students Place in Mars Forensic Tournament**

Three Fox Chapel Area High School students recently won awards at the Mars Area High School Invitational forensic tournament. Senior **Sara Puthenpurayil** won third place in Impromptu Speaking and sophomore **Jackson Boychuk** won fourth place in Student Congress. Additionally, freshman **Jackson Romero** won seventh place in Lincoln Douglas Debate.

The tournament was held January 6, 2018, at Mars Area High School. Approximately 130 students from 13 high schools from Western Pennsylvania participated.

• **Student Places in Central Catholic Forensic Tournament**

Fox Chapel Area High School freshman **Jackson Romero** won fourth place in Lincoln Douglas Debate at the Brother Rene Sterner Steel City Classic forensic tournament. The tournament was held December 15, 2017, at Pittsburgh Central Catholic High School. A total of 191 students from 25 high schools from Western and Central Pennsylvania competed at the event.

• **Students Chosen for All-Star Hockey Game**

Three Fox Chapel Area High School students were selected to participate in a Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League (PIHL) All-Star Game. Seniors **Shane Krhovsky** and **Chase Villani** were chosen as forwards, and junior **William Doyle** was selected to play for the defense for the Division I Class A Blue Team. The game was played January 28, 2018, at Robert Morris University's Island Sports Center.

Dr. Freeman commented that there has been a lot of miscommunication on the Dorseyville Middle School schedule. He said there is nothing set in stone, we are not eliminating programs, and there are two upcoming sessions scheduled to gather input from parents on issues.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

There was no report.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Wirginis asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the combined agenda study session and regular business meeting dated January 8, 2018. On motion by Mrs. Garbisch and seconded by Mr. Schmidt, the minutes were approved as submitted.

**DISTRICT FORUM**

Sandy Garcia-Tunon, District Forum communications coordinator, announced that the public event to be held on January 30 has been rescheduled for February 21 at 9:00 a.m. in the LGI room. The agenda is the same, which will include small group discussions with district administrators, and everyone is invited.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were 16 comments.

1. Ryan Smith, 231 Cornwall Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, a parent of a 6th grader and 8th grader, a husband, and a physician and professor of medicine at the University of Pittsburgh, commented on the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes. He said that more time in math will come at the expense of other subjects, and there are rumors as to what subjects they will be. He would like the Board to carefully consider the proposed schedule changes which would include forming a special committee to evaluate all aspects of the proposed changes, gathering all information, and render a public vote. He said the administration may recommend changes, but it is the Board's responsibility to engage all community stakeholders. Since the first meeting is held on a half day of school before a four-day weekend, it is suspect, and he doesn't think the administration is interested in what the community has to say, or community engagement. He

wonders if the high school has been engaged. He asks that the Board act on behalf of the students by studying the situation. The study should include, but not be limited to: 1) what precipitates the need for a change; 2) the measures that are used to determine the change needed; and 3) the end goal of this change. He asks that the Board study the impact on not just math but all areas of the students' well-rounded education at DMS and all district schools. He asks that a motion be made to form a committee to study these changes and conduct a public vote as to whether to implement the changes or table it until a study can be done.

2. Leah Cullen, 102 Eton Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15215, a parent of two children at O'Hara Elementary School and one at Dorseyville Middle School, and a 17-year senior supervising attorney in the child welfare system in Allegheny County, commented on the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes. She asks that the Board become actively engaged in the administration's proposed changes at Dorseyville Middle School. She is concerned about three issues surrounding the bell schedule change meeting: 1) the transparency of the administration; 2) understanding the effect of the proposed changes; and 3) whether any of the proposed changes are a focused-solution to a clearly-identified problem. The scope of the meeting is much more than just a bell schedule change, which is dishonest, and causes distrust among families. The Board must demand an improved level of transparency from the administration on all issues that impact our children's education. She asks the Board to require the administration to give advance notice of meetings with clear descriptions of what will be covered and a detailed agenda to review before the meeting, so that parents can better understand and partner in future decisions. She asks that the Board ensure that a deliberate and educated study of the proposed changes happen, and for it to involve stakeholders from across the demographics. Any changes can disrupt the wonderful ecosystem that is Dorseyville Middle School. The students currently have full access to academics, the arts, and special classes, without having to choose or rank selections, which allows them to better determine their interests, abilities, and future selections in high school. The Board must look at the administration and see if they have considered all the potential effects of the schedule change, assessed feedback from all stakeholders (not just a self-created survey), and that all plans are optimized to serve as many interests as possible. She asks that the Board fully understand what the intent is to increase the time in math (are there deficits, gaps), and be satisfied that the teachers have been supported and instructed on the curriculum. She has handouts with questions that parents would like answered at the upcoming meetings.
3. Eric Hamilton, 184 Woodshire Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15215, a parent of two graduates and an 8th grader, and a senior director of analytics at a large health plan, commented on the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes. He spoke about change in general, and doesn't feel that we have made the best use of the data, or communicated it to the community or the teachers, or if people have been brought into the process to look at the data to see trends, patterns, or the solution that is being proposed. He encourages the Board to look beyond PSSA scores, since they have access to data and intermediate assessments. He asks that they look beyond just math scores. He asks that they be more forthcoming with the data with the community. He asks that they look at the impact the change will have on other scores and subject areas not only the middle school, but the high school. He asks that they look at the data and share information and engage with the public as much as possible, which will encourage constructive discussions instead of conflict.
4. Alison Francis, 104 Crofton Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, a parent of two freshmen, and a teacher at Kerr Elementary School, commented on the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes. She said her girls had a wonderful experience at the middle school, the music and arts program is robust in this district because we support it, but we are failing in science and math, and there is a problem with the Genius Hour. We need to stay positive in these discussions instead of pointing fingers and laying blame. Transparency is necessary. If we stop giving our children rich science and math opportunities, they will be cut off from opportunities in high school and college. Our anger might be misplaced because we know so little about what the plans are.
5. Lisa Rendall, 120 Rodgers Drive West, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, a parent of two sons in the district who would also like to speak, a school psychologist of 19 years, and a licensed psychologist, commented on the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes. She spoke about the importance of having a well-rounded education, including curriculum opportunities for specials –

music, physical education, art, family and consumer science, technology education, and foreign language. They expose kids to opportunities they did not have before. She also spoke about the importance of social studies and noted that the Boy Scouts are in attendance earning a requirement for their citizenship badge. She wants to know the consequences if social studies becomes an elective so more time can be spent on math, if students will be properly prepared for high school or their journey to become an adult citizen. There are potential problems that will result if the district increases time in math and specials are no longer available as they are now. She said research shows a 10-12-minute attention span of middle school students, which doesn't account for those with disabilities. If students are forced to sit in math for over an hour, some may do fine, but some will suffer problems such as frustration, boredom, and an increase in behavior problems. And with a loss of specials, they may experience stress, reduced physical activity, and less motivation for school. The Board must ensure that the administration is transparent with them. The offer of more choices is deceiving. If math is increased and all of the teaching staff is not replaced by retirement, all electives will not be possible. The Board must recognize that the administration's plan is a curriculum change, not a bell or schedule change.

6. Jacob Rendall, 120 Rodgers Drive West, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, a sophomore at the high school, commented on the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes. He said music is an important part of his life. He would like to follow in his grandfather's footsteps and be an engineer, but music is his real passion. He plays the piano and French horn, and spoke about the many music opportunities in the district and his personal experiences and honors in music. If music options are decreased at Dorseyville Middle School, and math time is increased, students may miss out on really great opportunities. The high school marching band size may also decrease. He has been in accelerated math since 6th grade, and his social studies classes were some of his favorite classes, and have prepared him for his high school career and advanced classes there. He hopes that by sharing his experiences, the Board will be inspired to give other students the same opportunities at Dorseyville Middle School.

Mr. Wirginis thanked him and said that his theme is very important regarding the extracurricular activities. The administration and Board recognizes a correlation between music and math. The elementary band that performed last week was amazing. Every administrator and every Board member is committed to having a well-rounded program with all of the extracurricular activities. The leadership at Dorseyville Middle School and our administration are the bones and glue of this organization, along with good parental and student activities. He said we recognize you, and think you will be pleasantly surprised at the upcoming parent meetings.

7. Josh Rendall, 120 Rodgers Drive West, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, a 6th grader, commented on the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes. He spoke about his teachers and how they have helped to make math fun. However, he said he does not want to have double time in math next year. He also does not want to lose specials or Homebase. He wants the Board to consider how kids feel about Dorseyville Middle School.
8. Emmett Gillespie, 212 Falconhurst Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, a student at Dorseyville Middle School, here with his Boy Scout troop, commented on the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes. He said math is important, but other subjects help develop his brain as well. Makerspace offers a unique opportunity that students can go to during Homebase – students can design and print 3D models. Art helps him be creative and think abstractly, and social studies helps him understand history. He said the average middle schooler has an attention span of about 22-55 minutes. A 90-minute block period could cause kids to fall asleep in class or not pay attention – he said even great teachers have trouble keeping his attention for that long.
9. Nancy Snider, 602 Orchard Hill Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, a parent of two graduates, commented on how well her children did when they were students here. She said they did very well. Science and math seemed fine at that time. Currently, they are both doing very well – her daughter is a surgeon and her son is an engineer. They both succeeded with the type of academic excellence that was here then. She said education has changed a lot, regarding social studies, and how the government works. Knowledge of where we come from and where we're going is important. This reminds her of the "Sputnik years" when there was a big panic, and many changes

were being made in the schools, especially in physics and math. She said the Board should promote academic excellence in the math and science programs that are in place now instead of eliminating something.

10. Marybeth Dadd, 132 Riverwatch Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, a parent, commented on the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes. She said one of her biggest concerns is the proposed reduction of social studies classes. This is a core curriculum subject which should not have to suffer to increase time for math and higher test scores. She said it is what prepares our children to be good citizens, to be well-rounded individuals, and educated voters. It should not be tossed aside and treated as an elective. Children must learn geography, history, economics, cultural awareness, and civics, or we are failing them. They need to learn and understand our democracy. We are an example to them. We need to show them that history matters, and a full education matters. We need to show them that there is more to life than math. The humanities matter. We are one of the highest rated school districts in the state. She asked – Do we want to be known as the school district that doesn't provide a full social studies curriculum?
11. Heather Hoover Brocato, 103 Chapel Crest Terrace, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, commented on voting in schools. She said the draft calendar has students in session on May 15, 2019, primary election day. She would like the district to make this a clerical or professional development day, so that students will not be in school while the public enters. She said that police are not allowed on voting premises. She said our administration has requested that our schools not be used for voting, but it has been denied. The one thing that we can do as a district to keep our students safe is control our district calendar.
12. Peter Black, 315 Canterbury Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, a parent of two children in the district and a physics and biology teacher at Mars Area High School, commented on fracking near Dorseyville Middle School (within about two miles). He thinks this is going to be the beginning of a massive development. He would like the district to be ahead of the game and be proactive regarding safety. He is particularly concerned because it is Range Resources, due to their history. He has flyers regarding an upcoming informational meeting. He also commented on the math curriculum. He said obviously math is important, but critical thinking is also important. You may not get the desired effect by just increasing math. Perhaps you could look at a better integration with language arts and social studies. He said from a teacher's perspective, it takes a lot of training to do that correctly, and staff need a lot of support.

Mr. Wirginis said that is what they are hearing from the administrators regarding the curriculum and thanked him.

13. Ginger Thomas, 622 Orchard Hill Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, a parent of two children at Dorseyville Middle School and one at O'Hara Elementary School, commented on the district's commitment to the arts as a crucial component to our children's education. She said when her family moved here five years ago from out of state, they examined school rankings in the area in order to choose a place to buy a home. They were impressed that Dorseyville Middle School was one of the top-ranked middle schools in the state, and that the district earned a distinction as one of the best communities for music education. She said Dorseyville Middle School has been an incredible experience. Especially valuable is the school's commitment to give every student the opportunity to participate in music as part of the regular curriculum. Many studies show that regular engagement in music helps students in areas beyond music proficiency such as executive functioning; intelligence; non-verbal skills; memory; reading ability; second language acquisition; reducing stress; providing physical, emotional, and mental health benefits; higher achievement in writing; and higher SAT scores. She is concerned that Dorseyville Middle School is undergoing a curriculum change disguised as a schedule change that will reduce our kids' opportunities to engage in the arts and other parts of the curriculum. She would like any decisions made regarding the curriculum, in particular the arts, to be revisited. The Board and Dr. Freeman should see to it that parents are informed and consulted with detailed materials in advance of decision making. She said any decision on curriculum should be made with a public vote of the Board. With greater transparency by the district, parents will be eager partners in finding solutions for the problems faced by the district. She told the Board that her second-grade daughter told her that God is calling

her to make music because she can feel the music inside her and asked them not to rob her of the opportunity of the gift of music along with the many other things that she needs to learn once at the middle school.

14. Natalie Gillespie, 212 Falconhurst Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, a parent of one graduate and two middle school students, commented on the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes. Like the Board, she said we want what's best to maximize student learning, achievement, and development. She thanked the Board for the work they do. They should know the concerns of the constituents and engage stakeholders. She said it is not the Board's responsibility to problem solve everything, but it is their responsibility to ensure that the superintendent and the staff do. It is critical that the Board devote time to their duties. She said we want the Board to become actively engaged in the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes; wants a public vote on the acceptance of the change; wants a committee formed to look into it; wants transparency in all things, especially in this situation; wants to understand the problems faced by the middle school and work together to find the solution; and wants to make sure we do that deliberately and holistically. She asks that the Board ensure that the administration addresses our concerns appropriately and she thanked the Board.
15. Nathan Moore, 108 Black Oak Drive, Cheswick, PA, 15024, a 7th grader, commented on the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes. He does not think there should be two periods of math. He also thinks that instead of two periods of literacy, one could be replaced with tech ed or another class. He also said there is too much intervention.

Mr. Wirginis responded that he understands by the attendance and appreciates the importance that everyone puts behind this. He hopes we get this attendance at the upcoming parent meetings and assures everyone that Thursday was not picked for the reasons speakers stated – it was scheduled to be earlier but was delayed due to weather.

16. Susan Littwin, 85 Quail Hill Road, Pittsburgh, PA, 15238, a parent of a 4th and 6th grader, commented on the proposed Dorseyville Middle School schedule changes. She said she has been in the community for a year and a half, coming from a private school in Manhattan. She chose Fox Chapel because of the robust well-rounded education. She said her children have thrived here in a well-rounded way, not just academically. She complimented the FACS Café at the middle school. She said all classes are important for a well-rounded child. She would like to see the data on the 6th grade math scores that were brought up at last week's meeting. If those scores are not that good, it starts in elementary school. She said some background knowledge about proposed changes would help ease our fears – be transparent and open. She said to please consider these other courses – it's not just academics that are needed to survive.

Mr. Wirginis responded that he appreciates all of the comments, and everyone is speaking the language of the Board and the administrators. He assures the public that this has been taken into account to a very great extent, and they will be impressed by the next two parent meetings. He spoke about growing up in the area and deciding to live here because of the education the district offers. He said all of the administrators and the Board know and emotionally feel the importance of not only math and science, but all of the other studies and activities in the district. Mr. Wirginis said he appreciates the public attendance.

#### **NEW AGENDA ITEM**

**Dorseyville Middle School Schedule** – Dr. Cook recommended that action be taken to set up a Board review and vote on the planned changes in instructional time in order to assess their impact on all of our educational offerings and to consider the community concerns. Mr. Wirginis said it will be taken under consideration.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The superintendent is recommending that action be taken on the following items of business:

**FACILITIES/TRANSPORTATION**

**A. Facilities/Transportation**

On motion by Dr. Vyas and seconded by Mrs. Garbisch, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Facilities/Transportation item:

**1. The Yellow Cab Company of Pittsburgh, Inc. d/b/a zTrip – Agreement**

Ratify the agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and The Yellow Cab Company of Pittsburgh, Inc. d/b/a zTrip to provide student transportation services effective January 16, 2018.

**FINANCE**

**B. Finance**

On motion by Mr. Mauro and seconded by Mrs. Garbisch, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Finance items:

**1. Disbursements (A)**

General fund disbursements (Fund 10), in the amount of \$7,969,534.86 from January 1, 2018, through January 31, 2018, are approved.

**2. Disbursements (B)**

GO Bond Series 2013 Construction Fund disbursements (Fund 33) in the amount of \$772,359.44 for January 2018 are approved.

**3. Finance Report**

The finance report for December 2018 is acknowledged and filed for audit.

**4. Budget Transfers**

The budget transfers for 2017-2018 are approved.

**5. Student Activity Financial Reports**

The second quarter 2017-2018 middle school and high school student activity financial reports are acknowledged and filed for audit.

**6. Permission to Advertise – Athletic Supplies**

Authorize the advertisement of bids for the 2018-2019 school year for the following: athletic supplies (fall and winter), athletic supplies (spring), and athletic medical supplies.

**7. DQE Communications – Renewal Agreement**

Approve the renewal agreement between the Fox Chapel Area School District and DQE Communications for additional Internet bandwidth for the period July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2021, at a monthly cost of \$1,500.00.

**8. Apple, Inc. – Schedule No. PUB17292**

Approve Schedule No. PUB17292, pursuant to the three-year master lease purchase agreement with Apple, Inc. for technology equipment leasing effective March 15, 2018, at a total cost of \$654,350.61.

**9. Allegheny Intermediate Unit – 2018-2019 Program of Services Budget**

The administration recommends that the Board approve the proposed 2018-2019 Allegheny Intermediate Unit Program of Services Budget in the amount of \$2,086,109.00. The Allegheny County (AIU3) school districts' total contribution to the budget is \$1,765,288.00. The Fox Chapel Area School District contribution to the Program of Services Budget is estimated to be \$98,133.00 and will be determined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education according to the District Aid Ratio and Weighted Average Daily Membership (WADM).

**10. Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program Agreement and Resolution**

Approve the joint purchasing agreement between the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the Fox Chapel Area School district and authorize the participation in and appointment of Kimberly M. Pawlishak and Daniel Breitreutz to the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program on behalf of the Fox Chapel Area School District for the 2018-2019 school year.

**11. Exoneration of Tax Collectors**

Approve a motion to exonerate the local real estate tax collectors for Indiana Township, O'Hara Township, Aspinwall Borough, Blawnox Borough, Fox Chapel Borough, and Sharpsburg Borough for the 2017 tax duplicate and to turn over the 2017 delinquent tax listing to PA Del Tax for collection.

**12. Fixing the Compensation of Certain School District Real Estate Tax Collectors Resolution 2018-2**

Approve Resolution 2018-2 regarding fixing the compensation of certain school district real estate tax collectors. The compensation structure is unchanged.

**INSTRUCTION**

**C. Instruction**

On motion by Mr. Obernauer and seconded by Mrs. Garbisch, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Instruction item:

**1. Stipulated Adjudications**

Approve the stipulated adjudications for student A dated January 2, 2018; student B dated January 12, 2018; and student C dated January 29, 2018.



## LEGISLATION/POLICY

### D. Legislation/Policy

On motion by Mr. Schmidt and seconded by Mrs. Garbisch, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Legislation/Policy item:

#### 1. Policy – Revised

Approve the following revised policy:

No. 239 – Foreign Exchange and International Students

## PERSONNEL

### E. Personnel

On motion by Dr. Cook and seconded by Mrs. Garbisch, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Personnel items, with Dr. Cook noting a date correction of May 8 under professional resignations:

*Candidates for employment under this section are 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.*

#### 1. Resignations

##### a. Professional

- (1) The resignation of Tammy J. Balestrino, gifted education teacher at Hartwood Elementary School, under the retirement incentive approved at the May 8, 2017, Board meeting, is accepted effective July 1, 2018.
- (2) The resignation of Mary L. Balkey, certified school nurse at Fairview Elementary School, under the retirement incentive approved at the May 8, 2017, Board meeting, is accepted effective July 1, 2018.
- (3) The resignation of Lisa A. Barbour, French teacher at Dorseyville Middle School, under the retirement incentive approved at the May 8, 2017, Board meeting, is accepted effective July 1, 2018.
- (4) The resignation of Kimberly A. Buckley, elementary teacher at O'Hara Elementary School, under the retirement incentive approved at the May 8, 2017, Board meeting, is accepted effective July 1, 2018.
- (5) The resignation of Sallie A. Kaan, K-8 mathematics coach for Fox Chapel Area School District, under the retirement incentive approved at the May 8, 2017, Board meeting, is accepted effective July 1, 2018.
- (6) The resignation of Jill S. Langue, speech and language pathologist at Hartwood Elementary School, under the retirement incentive approved at the May 8, 2017, Board meeting, is accepted effective July 1, 2018.
- (7) The resignation of Evangelia D. Malecki, science teacher at Dorseyville Middle School, under the retirement incentive approved at the May 8, 2017, Board meeting, is accepted effective July 1, 2018.

- (8) The resignation of Kelly A. Nail, RtII Facilitator at Kerr Elementary School, under the retirement incentive approved at the May 8, 2017, Board meeting, is accepted effective July 1, 2018.
- (9) The resignation of Jody L. Shell, art teacher at Fox Chapel Area High School, under the retirement incentive approved at the May 8, 2017, Board meeting, is accepted effective July 1, 2018.
- (10) The resignation of Laura J. Sherwin, reading specialist at O'Hara Elementary School, under the retirement incentive approved at the May 8, 2017, Board meeting, is accepted effective July 1, 2018.

**b. Educational Support**

- (1) The resignation of Lynn A. Subasic, instructional assistant at Hartwood Elementary School, due to retirement, is accepted effective June 12, 2018.

**c. Supplemental Contracts – Athletic**

- (1) The resignation of Cara E. Reese, high school girls' volleyball assistant coach, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective January 9, 2018.
- (2) The resignation of David N. Snyder, middle school girls' volleyball head coach, due to personal reasons, is accepted effective January 11, 2018.

**2. Leaves**

**a. Professional**

- (1) Amy E. Buches, mathematics teacher at Fox Chapel Area High School, is approved for childrearing/ adoption leave, under Article Eleven (D) of the Fox Chapel Educators Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective April 4, 2018, with return scheduled for May 21, 2018.
- (2) Breane M. DeComo, mathematics teacher at Dorseyville Middle School, is approved for a first semester educational sabbatical, effective the first day of the 2018-2019 school term, with return scheduled for the first day of the second semester of the 2018-2019 school term.

**3. Appointments**

**a. Supplemental Contracts – Athletic**

- (1) The following athletic supplemental contracts are ratified for the 2017-2018 school term:

Diana Andreyko	Girls' Volleyball Assistant Coach – HS	\$3,820
Michelle Couch	Field Hockey Head Coach – HS	\$6,007
Geoffrey M. Dutelle	Girls' Lacrosse 2nd Assistant Coach – HS	\$3,255
Alexander Lawson	Boys' Volleyball Head Coach – MS	\$3,169

**b. Supplemental Contract – Non-Athletic**

- (1) The following non-athletic supplemental contract is ratified for the 2017-2018 school term:

Susan M. Kreit	Gifted Department Head – Elementary	\$1,384
----------------	-------------------------------------	---------

**4. Extra Innings**

**a. Teachers**

- (1) The following are ratified as Extra Innings substitute teachers for the 2017-2018 school term at a rate of \$30 per hour:

Heath Asbury  
Katelyn Deet

**OPERATIONS/COOPERATIVE SERVICES**

**E. Operations/Cooperative Services**

On motion by Mrs. Garbisch and seconded by Mr. Schmidt, it was unanimously resolved to approve the following Operations/Cooperative Services items:

**1. Change Orders – Dorseyville Middle School Alterations Project**

Approve change orders HC-014 and EC-011 at a total cost of \$2,171.22 for the Dorseyville Middle School alterations project pending PDE approval of Plancon Part I. These change orders were reviewed and approved by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority Board.

**2. Change Orders – O’Hara Elementary School Alterations Project**

Approve change orders GC-009, GC-010, GC-011, and HC-001 at a total cost of \$18,603.64 for the O’Hara Elementary School alterations project pending PDE approval of Plancon Part I. These change orders were reviewed and approved by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority Board.

**3. Change Order – Fairview Elementary School Alterations Project**

Approve change order EC-003 at a cost of \$7,131.63 for the Fairview Elementary School alterations project. This change order was reviewed and approved by the Fox Chapel Area School Authority Board.

**4. Plancon Part D – Project Accounting Based on Estimates – Resolution 2018-3  
Kerr Elementary School Project**

Approve Resolution 2018-3 authorizing the submission of Plancon Part D to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the Kerr Elementary School project.

**5. Plancon Part E – Design Development – Resolution 2018-4  
Kerr Elementary School Project**

Approve Resolution 2018-4 authorizing the submission of Plancon Part E to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the Kerr Elementary School project.

**6. YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh – Contract**

Ratify the contract between the Fox Chapel Area School District and the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh effective February 5, 2018. The YMCA will purchase snacks from the Fox Chapel Area School District for participants in the after-school program. There is no cost to the district.

**GO BACK TO NEW AGENDA ITEM**

Mr. Wirginis asked Dr. Cook to restate her motion from earlier in the meeting.

**Dorseyville Middle School Schedule** – Dr. Cook recommended that action be taken to set up a Board review and vote on the planned changes in instructional time in order to assess their impact on all of our educational offerings and to consider the community concerns.

Mr. Schmidt commented that it is probably premature since there will be more public comment, and the public meetings should occur first. Mr. Wirginis asked for a motion to table the motion until after the public meetings. On motion by Mr. Schmidt and seconded by Mrs. Garbisch, the item was tabled until after the public meetings, with 6 in favor and 1 opposed, Dr. Cook voting No. Prior to the vote, Dr. Cook commented that that if we set up a review and vote, we can still have time to gather information after the informational meetings, and Mr. Wirginis stated that her motion did not receive a second.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Justin Breen, student government president, gave his report on the success of the telethon; the upcoming blood drive; and the activities in support of Special Olympics – the bocce game and polar plunge.

**FOX CHAPEL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE**

There was no report.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

There were seven comments. Dr. Cook said it was wonderful to see all the parents out, and she hopes we can work to improve communications and continue to invite participation from our community. Mr. Obernauer seconded what Dr. Cook said, and what Mr. Wirginis said about the Board's and administration's concern, and thanked the community for their input. Dr. Vyas seconded what Mr. Obernauer said. Mrs. Garbisch thanked everyone for coming to speak, in particular, the young people. She's very proud of them because it's not always easy to speak with this many people. Also, she talked about being involved in turning the junior high school into a middle school, and is a real believer in the middle school philosophy. She is a history major and went to a liberal arts college. She plays the piano, along with all five of her children, and they were all involved in music while in school. She strongly believes in music and the arts. She doesn't think this district will ever let you down on music and the arts. She has been on the Board for 22 years, and one of the greatest things we do here is music and the arts. She loves the middle school – it's her favorite. Mr. Schmidt said he is very happy to see all of the Boy Scouts tonight, and they are welcome anytime. He thinks this process will succeed, and he anticipates seeing everyone and many more at the meetings on Thursday and Wednesday, and we'll show the evidence of that success by this room being empty again next month. He hopes and believes he is right. He knows that this administration has only the best interests of the children at heart, and we are going to work it out for the best outcome. Mr. Mauro said like the one speaker said tonight, he also chose Fox Chapel to get away from private school tuition about 30 years ago, and understands that. He said it's pretty obvious we have not done a very good job of disseminating information, because it's also pretty obvious that there's a lot of misinformation and rumors going on in the community. He urged them to be at one or both of the upcoming meetings, so that they can get some honest information and understand what we're doing, and it will clear up a significant portion of the concerns. Not everybody will be totally happy at the end of the day, but many of the concerns will go away. He also said shame on the speaker who suggested that we planned the meeting when many people would not come, because that is far from the truth. He said please come to the meetings, ask questions, and we will do the best we can to disseminate information and make this transparent, and thanks for coming. Mr. Wirginis said he already made his comments and they were very heartfelt. As a Board, we put our faith in our superintendent, who puts his faith in and works very closely with the education association and the administration in each building. He agreed with Mr. Mauro that we have to do a better job of disseminating information. We are doing well, but we want to do better. He said his grandkids are now living in the district, so it's a big deal to him.

ADJOURNMENT

It was unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kathleen Anuszek", written over a horizontal line.

Kathleen Anuszek  
Board Secretary

