

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, Ohio, held a Regular Meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2020 that was held at Fairfield High School in the Catherine D. Milligan Community Room.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by the President, Mr. Berding.

ROLL CALL – Present: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum & Mrs. Shorter  
Absent: Mrs. O’Neal

Also present: Mr. Smith, Mrs. Lane, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Aug & Mr. Penney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Brian Begley

#### PRESENTATIONS/RESOLUTIONS

A. East Elementary School Spotlight – Dr. Paige Gillespie

Dr. Gillespie and Mr. McEldowney gave an overview of the start of the school year.

Mrs. O’Neal arrived at 6:43 pm.

Mr. Wolterman arrived at 6:53 pm.

Mrs. Shorter stated that the presentation was very impressive.  
She asked if the second counselor is being utilized to offset any additional social and emotional needs that the students may have.  
Response: They are not seeing that many issues yet.

Mr. Begley appreciated the pictures and how the students have adapted.

Mrs. O’Neal stated that it is comforting to hear how well the students are doing with the mask requirement.

Mr. Berding thinks it is great that the students were able to finish their art projects.

COMMUNICATION - None

This is the portion of the meeting where you are invited to share your thoughts with the Board. Please know that this time has been set aside for the Board to listen to you. Your comments are valued and will be taken into careful consideration. The Board will not engage in dialog at this time. Presentations are limited to five (5) minutes each.

#### SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

20-90 EXTRACURRICULAR RESIGNATIONS/EMPLOYMENT – Mr. Martin

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Begley to approve the following:

A. Personnel – Professional

1. Extracurricular Resignations 2020-2021

- a. Heather Kauffman, Department Head, Social Studies 7<sup>th</sup>  
(effective 2020-2021 school year; for personal reasons)
- b. Kim Knisley, Unit Leader, Preschool/Kindergarten  
(effective 2020-2021 school year; for personal reasons)

2. Employment

a. Extracurriculars – 2020-2021

**Senior High**

Eric Cimini, Technical Director, Electronic 50%  
Chase Jackson, Assistant Soccer Coach, Boys  
Michael Massie, Drama Director Associate  
Julie Muething, Hope Squad  
Craig Reed, Swim Coach Boys/Girls 100%  
Craig Reed, Swim Coach Boys/Girls 50%  
Brenda Stieger, Softball Head Coach  
Cortlynn Van Benschoten, Hope Squad  
Jeremy West, Hope Squad

**Middle – Middle Creekside and Middle Crossroads combined**

David Kozak, Boys Golf 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>  
Mark Mercer, Show Choir Director

**Middle – Crossroads Middle**

Tony Hibbard, Department Head, Social Studies 7<sup>th</sup>

**Central Elementary**

Erin Knox, Unit Leader Grade 2  
Anne McKinney, Unit Leader Special Areas

**West Elementary**

Emily Wolfrum, Unit Leader Preschool/Kindergarten

b. ESL Tutors 2020-2021

Carmen Contreras

(Periodically the district has students who qualify for English as a Second Language, as determined through the district's established assessment process. It is recommended that the above-noted person(s) be employed as a designated ESL Tutor at the rate of \$31.46 per hour, effective for the 2020-21 school year.)

c. Substitute Nurses 2020-2021

Gayle Jett

(All recommendations are for the 2020-21 school year at a rate of \$94 per day.)

(All employment is contingent upon satisfactory submission of all required documents.)

3. Employment Corrections

a. **Corrected from Title 1 Funds to Auxiliary Funds**

**Reading/Math Tutor (Non-Public – Sacred Heart) 2021**  
Andrea Mathews

(Periodically the district has students who qualify for tutoring in math or reading as determined through the district's established assessment process. It is recommended that the above noted person(s) be paid as a tutor out of Auxiliary Funds through the state of Ohio, at the rate of \$31.46 per hour, effective for the 2020-2021 school year.)

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. O'Neal

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O'Neal & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

20-91 RESIGNATIONS/EMPLOYMENT – Mr. Penney

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Shorter to approve the following:

B. Personnel - Support

1. Resignations

- a. Cathleen Falkenthal, Central, Head Cook  
(effective the end of the day December 31, 2020; for retirement purposes)
- b. Jamie Jamison, Central, Educational Assistant  
(effective the end of the 2019-2020 school year; for personal reasons)
- c. Wendy McKnight, Transportation, Bus Driver  
(effective the end of the day September 18, 2020; for personal reasons)
- d. Kristie Morris, Creekside, Educational Assistant  
(effective the end of the day August 21, 2020; for personal reasons)

2. Employment

- a. Michelle Dane, District, Custodian, Temporary Custodian  
(effective September 28, 2020 through December 28, 2020; for a replacement position)
- b. Cameron Hawley, Senior High, Temporary Custodian  
(effective September 18, 2020 through December 18, 2020; for a replacement position)

- c. Joshua Holbrook, Senior High, Temporary Custodian  
(effective September 18, 2020 through December 18, 2020; for a replacement position)
- d. Kathy Staley, North, Educational Assistant  
(effective September 8, 2020; for a replacement position)
- e. Diana Weeks, District, Confidential Secretary II  
(effective September 28, 2020; for a replacement position)

(All employment is contingent upon satisfactory submission of all required documents.)

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Gundrum

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O’Neal & Mrs. Shorter  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried: 5-0

C. Items for Board Discussion

- 1. Technology Fee for Grades 6-8 – Mandy Aug

Mrs. Aug explained the need for a tech fee of \$40 for grades 6-8.

- 2. Graduation Seals – Mandy Aug

Mrs. Aug stated that effective with the class of 2023, the state of Ohio has created nine seals for graduation. Fairfield City School District has created three seals – Community Service, Fine & Performing Arts and Student Engagement. These could be available to students in 2021 and 2022.

Mr. Berding asked when students can start earning their seals.  
Response: Grades 9-12.

20-92 APPROVAL OF MINUTES/APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR AUGUST 2020/  
APPROVAL OF THE 2020-2021 AMENDED APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION/  
DISPOSALS/DONATIONS

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. O’Neal to approve the following:

TREASURER’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

- A. Recommend approval of the minutes of the following meetings:

August 20, 2020 – Regular Meeting  
September 3, 2020 – Regular Work Session Meeting

- B. Recommend approval of the financial reports for the month of August 2020.

- C. Recommend approval of the 2020-2021 Amended Appropriations Resolution.
- D. Recommend approval of the disposal of the following fixed assets:

<u>Tag Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Location</u>
20704	Laptop	Fairfield Prevention Coalition
20813	Color Printer	Fairfield Prevention Coalition
20165	Walkie Talkie	Creekside Middle School
6428	Television	High School
6463	Television	High School
6518	Television	High School
6523	Television	High School
6572	Television	High School
6573	Television	High School
6575	Television	High School
6654	Television	High School
6691	Television	High School
7302	Television	High School
14458	Television	High School
30209	Wheelchair Swing	Special Services

- E. Recommend approval of the following donations:
  - 1. A donation of books valued at \$1,000 from Melanie Moore (using the Cincy Book Bus) to Fairfield Compass Elementary School.
  - 2. A donation of \$1,020 from Cayden Cummings to Fairfield North Elementary School.

**Total donations for 2020: \$29,608.00**

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Begley

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O’Neal & Mrs. Shorter  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried: 5-0

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Legislative Update – Balena Shorter

### **HB 239**

Beginning with the class of 2022, eliminates the requirement that high school students take a nationally standardized college admission assessment for graduation Beginning with the class of 2023, reduces the number of end-of-course exams required for graduation from five to four For the 2020-2021 school year only, prohibits student retention under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee Passed in House on 5/28/20. Went to Senate. Was referred to Senate Education Committee on 9/1/20.

### **Report Cards**

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) announced the 2020 Ohio School Report Cards are expected to be released on Sept. 15. The report cards will not have grades or ratings due to provisions in House Bill 197. The Ohio Department of Education's annual schools' report cards don't feature any grades for districts or buildings this year.

The ODE says the 2020 reports cards for districts and buildings do not contain overall grades, individual grades or ratings for given components or performance measures.

"The report cards also do not include any information about student performance on state tests, the academic growth of students during the school year and the extent to which achievement gaps are being addressed for students. This is in keeping with legislation passed as a result of the coronavirus pandemic that also canceled the administration of most state tests for the last portion of the 2019-2020 school year," the ODE released in a statement.

The 2020 edition of grades does feature information on graduation rates, Prepared for Success indicators and some other measures.

You can find the school district's grade at [reportcard.education.ohio.gov](http://reportcard.education.ohio.gov)

### **CARES Act Funding**

The United States Department of Education has quietly dropped a controversial rule directing states to give private schools a bigger share of federal coronavirus aid known as CARES Act K-12 emergency relief funds. The rule was struck down by U.S. District Judge Dabney Friedrich, and she indicated in her summary judgment that it would be applied nationwide. She stated that, "In enacting the education funding provisions of the CARES Act, Congress spoke with a clear voice, and the Education Secretary did not follow the law when she changed the formula for distributing the funds to private schools. Friedrich was the third judge who ruled against the Education Secretary on the rule. Two earlier cases were heard in Washington and California, and both judges put a hold on the implementation of the rule in limited areas of the country. Friedrich's decision covered the entire country and ordered that the rule be vacated.

### **Background**

The case involved the distribution of about \$13.5 billion that Congress included in its \$2 trillion Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (Cares) Act, passed in March, to mitigate economic damage from the coronavirus pandemic. Lawmakers from both parties said that most of the Cares Act's K-12 education funding was intended to be distributed to public and private elementary and secondary schools using a formula based on how many poor children they serve that had long been used for distributing federal aid. But DeVos said she wanted money sent to private schools based on the total number of students in the school, not how many students from low-income families attended. That would have sent hundreds of millions of dollars more to private schools than Congress had intended. Hence the fight.

#### **B. Butler Tech – Michael Berding**

Mr. Berding will email the answers to Mrs. Shorter's questions from the last meeting.

#### **C. Planning Commission – Brian Begley**

The new Dunkin restaurant will be built on Gilmore Road in front of Meijer.

C. Student Achievement - Carrie O'Neal

Cayden Cummings deserves all of the praise for the donation that he made to North Elementary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 1, 2020 – Board Meeting (Work Session) 6:30PM, Catherine D. Milligan Community Room

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Gundrum

She thanked Mr. Cummings for a great job!  
She thanked the staff and administrators at East for their presentation.  
She thinks the bus drivers are doing a great job with enforcing mask requirements.

Mrs. Shorter

She thanked Cayden for his donation to North.  
She thanked East Elementary for their presentation.

Mrs. O'Neal

She thanked Mrs. Aug and the team for the technology for students.

Mr. Begley

He thanked Mr. McKinney and his staff for their efforts with the technology distribution.  
He thanked Mrs. Aug and her staff.  
He thinks that the district is doing a great job.

Mr. Berding

He agrees with everything that has been said tonight.  
He thanked the Board members for working together.  
He thanked the parents for following the guidelines at sporting events.  
He congratulated Mr. Cummings.

20-93 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Begley to recess to Executive Session at 7:25 pm to discuss the following:

The discipline and employment of public employees 121.22 (G) (1)

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Gundrum

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O'Neal & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

The Board resumed the meeting at 8:40 pm.

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2020

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20-94 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Begley to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. O’Neal

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mrs. Gundrum, Mrs. O’Neal & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 pm by the President, Mr. Berding.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer