

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 19, 2021

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The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, Ohio, held a Regular Meeting on the 19th of August, 2021 in the Performing Arts Center at Fairfield High School.

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

ROLL CALL – Present: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Gundrum and Mrs. Shorter

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Scott Clark

PRESENTATIONS/RESOLUTIONS

A. Statement of Solidarity – Bill Rice & Fairfield for Change

Mr. Rice introduced three students (Camilla Yankson, Anie Udosen and Brielle Shorter) from Fairfield for Change who gave an update on a project they've been working on. They presented a Statement of Solidarity which will be read during school announcements, before home football games and displayed at the end of email signatures. They plan to use grant money that was given to their organization by the Fairfield Community Foundation to fund land acknowledgement plaques that will be displayed throughout the district. The Statement of Solidarity and the plaques are intended to spread awareness of local Native American history.

COMMUNICATION

This is the portion of the meeting where you, the residents of the Fairfield City School District, 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 dialogue at this time. Presentations are limited to five (5) minutes each.

21-76 AMEND AGENDA TO ADJUST THE LENGTH OF PRESENTATIONS FROM FIVE (5) MINUTES TO THREE (3) MINUTES PER SPEAKER, FOR A TOTAL OF SEVENTY-FIVE (75) MINUTES

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

- A. Amend agenda to adjust the length of presentations from five (5) minutes to three (3) minutes per speaker, for a total of seventy-five (75) minutes for communication.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Clark

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

Approximately 30 community members addressed the Board regarding their views on mask wearing.

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

21-77 EXTRACURRICULAR RESIGNATION/UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT
– Mr. Martin

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

A. Personnel – Professional

1. Extracurricular Resignation 2021-2022
 - a. Darren Ling, Freshman, Symphonic Winds Director
(effective 2021-2022 school year; for personal reasons)
2. Unpaid Leave of Absence
 - a. Kim Wright, Central, 2nd grade
(effective on August 13, 2021 through November 30, 2021; for childrearing purposes)
3. Employment
 - a. Devin Pennington, West, Kindergarten, 50%
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2021-2022 school year, effective August 16, 2021; for a new position)
 - b. Barbara Wehrung, South, Kindergarten, 50%
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2021-2022 school year, effective August 13, 2021; for a new position)
 - c. Sydney Withrow, North, Kindergarten, 50%
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2021-2022 school year, effective August 16, 2021; for a new position)
 - d. Extracurriculars – 2021-2022

Senior High

Kalu Abass, Soccer, Assistant Boys
Ethan Arcuri, Football, Assistant, Sophomore 28%
Ethan Arcuri, Football, Varsity Assistant 50%
Jonathan Fisher, Football, Assistant, Sophomore 10%
Jonathan Fisher, Football, Varsity Assistant 67%
Erik Geiser, Football, Assistant, Sophomore 40%
Erik Geiser, Football, Varsity Assistant 75%
Kelsey Grosser, Tennis, Assistant, Girls

Mitchell Hardy, Marching Band Associate Director
John Hembree, Football, Assistant, Sophomore 40%
John Hembree, Football, Varsity Assistant 75%
Samantha O'Shea, Volleyball, Assistant Girls
Rachel Phillips, Soccer, Assistant Girls
Jeff Sims, Athletic Director, Assistant
Tyler Smith, Football, Assistant, Sophomore 28%
Tyler Smith, Football, Varsity Assistant 50%
Jacob Stewart, Football, Assistant, Sophomore 28%
Jacob Stewart, Football, Varsity Assistant 54%
Jonathon Stewart, Football, Assistant, Sophomore 28%
Jonathon Stewart, Football, Varsity Assistant 54%
Alexis Thomas, Volleyball, Assistant Girls
Matt Tyla, Football, Assistant, Sophomore 30%
Matt Tyla, Football, Varsity Assistant 75%
Alexis Wahoff, Cross Country, Varsity Assistant
Derek Wiggins, Football, Assistant, Sophomore 56%
Derek Wiggins, Football, Varsity Assistant

Freshman

Ethan Arcuri, Football 10%
Kyle Bolser, Soccer, Boys
Christopher Hubbard, Soccer Coach, Assistant Boys 50%
Darren Ling, Jazz Band Director
Tyler Smith, Football 10%
Jacob Stewart, Football 10%
Jonathon Stewart, Football 10%
Derek Wiggins, Football 20%

Middle – Middle Creekside and Middle Crossroads combined

Nichole Tock, Cross Country

Middle – Creekside Middle

Kristopher Hensley, Athletic Director, Assistant
Nichole Tock, Intramural Track, 6th Grade

e. EL Tutor 2021-2022

Carmen Contreras
Amy Fijas
Danielle Foust

(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 EL Tutor at the rate of \$32.25 per hour, effective for the 2021-2022 school year.)

f. Academic Support Tutors

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Kristina Anderson
Kelly Bowen
Amy Combs
Lawrence B. McMonigle
Christian Millard
Nicholas Moonis
Lindsey Perschke
Tracy Sieckman-Lee
Rena Stanger
Megan Straub
Nicole VonStein

(It is recommended that the above-noted person(s) be employed as a designated Academic Support Tutor at the rate of \$32.25 per hour, effective for the 2021-2022 school year.)

g. Substitute Teachers 2021-2022

Amy Combs
Abigail Smith

(All recommendations are for the 2021-2022 school year at a rate of \$94 per day.)

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Shorter

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Gundrum & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

21-78 RESIGNATIONS/UNPAID LEAVES OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT – Mr. Perry

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

B. Personnel – Support

1. Resignations

- a. Jeremy Bennington, Senior High, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; for personal reasons)
- b. Kristen Gabbard, Central, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; for personal reasons)
- c. Brenda Geisler, Creekside, Food Service Assistant
(effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; for personal reasons)
- d. Andrea Mathews, Sacred Heart, Clerk IV
(effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; for personal reasons)

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- e. Beverly Pierman, Compass, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; to accept another position within the District)
 - f. Dana Reid, East, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; for personal reasons)
 - g. Kelly Ring, North, Educational Assistant & Educational Support Assistant
(effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; for personal reasons)
 - h. Leslie Turner, Creekside, Cook
(effective the end of the day August 27, 2021; for personal reasons)
 - i. Judy Wallace, West, Cook
(effective the end of 2020-2021 school year; to accept another position within the District)
 - j. Donna Wolfe, Crossroads, Educational Assistant
(effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; to accept another position within the District)
2. Unpaid Leaves of Absence
- a. Jennis Calihan, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective September 20, 2021 through September 22, 2021; for personal reasons)
 - b. Danielle Jones, Transportation, Bus Driver
(extension of unpaid leave of absence starting April 4, 2021 through October 21, 2021; for personal reasons)
 - c. Regina Tapplar, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective .5 day on May 7, 2021 through May 27, 2021; for personal reasons)
 - d. Janet Watts, Transportation, Educational Assistant
(effective .75 day on September 16, 2021 through November 23, 2021; for personal reasons)
3. Employment
- a. Anthony Agoston, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective August 17, 2021; for a replacement position)
 - b. Teresa Blair, Crossroads, Clerk IV
(effective August 30, 2021; for a replacement position)
 - c. Rebecca Bowen, North, Food Service Assistant
(effective August 17, 2021; for a replacement position)

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- d. Alexa Braunig, Crossroads, Educational Assistant
(effective August 13, 2021; for a replacement position)
- e. Margaret Colley, Creekside, Educational Assistant
(effective August 17, 2021; for a replacement position)
- f. Robin Lykins, Freshman, Food Service Assistant
(effective August 17, 2021; for a replacement position)
- g. Kaylie Mason, West, Food Service Assistant
(effective August 17, 2021; for a replacement position)
- h. Kayla Mast, West, Educational Assistant
(effective August 13, 2021; for a new position)
- i. Beverly Pierman, Compass, Educational Support Assistant
(effective August 13, 2021; for a replacement position)
- j. Angenise Rawls, Crossroads; Food Service Assistant
(effective August 17, 2021; for a replacement position)
- k. Alissa Reasch, Creekside, Food Service Assistant
(effective August 17, 2021; for a replacement position)
- l. April Strunk, Senior High, Educational Assistant
(effective August 13, 2021; for a replacement position)
- m. Judy Wallace, South, Educational Support Assistant
(effective August 13, 2021; for a replacement position)
- n. Tracy Welch, Compass, Food Service Assistant
(effective August 17, 2021; for a replacement position)
- o. Donna Wolfe, West, Clerk IV
(effective August 9, 2021; 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, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Gundrum & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

C. Items for Board Discussion

- 1. Facial Coverings in FCSD Buildings – Billy Smith and Matt Crapo

Mr. Smith acknowledged the passion and emotion of people on both sides of the masking discussion. He stated that throughout the pandemic, the Board has relied on guidance from the ODH, ODE and BCHD. Now, however, there is a lack of alignment between the ODH, the CDC and local health authorities. At the same time there is public pressure for school districts to issue their own mask mandates, with equal public pressure to NOT issue mask mandates. Additionally, there is confusion as to who actually has the authority to issue mask mandates.

Mr. Smith shared that State Representative, Jennifer Gross, recently signed onto legislation prohibiting schools in Ohio from mandating that students wear masks, stating that it should be up to parents to decide. If this legislation passes, any mandate the District may impose would be null and void.

The bottom line is that as of August 19, 2021, FCSD is strongly recommending that all students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, wear a facial covering while indoors at school. Students and staff should be treated with respect regardless of their masking decision. The District will continue to monitor its own data.

Mr. Crapo followed up with a slide presentation of recent Covid-19 data, which showed the data by state, by county and by zip code. He will continue to monitor this information as well as our schools' data.

Mrs. Shorter gave a presentation that supported her view that masking is the best way for students to stay in school.

Mr. Clark stated that he is against mandatory masking of students.

Mrs. Gundrum's concern is for keeping kids in school. She would like to know how many kids are wearing masks in school and would like to wait and get more data from our schools.

Mr. Begley said that right now, he is not in favor of a mask mandate, but his opinion could change after we have more of our own data.

Mr. Berding feels that it is the responsibility of the Board of Health, not a school board that is not made up of medical personnel, to issue a mandatory mask order.

21-79 AMEND AGENDA TO INCLUDE A VOTE FOR MANDATORY MASKING FOR PRE-K-6, EXCLUDING SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

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

- A. Amend the agenda to include a vote for mandatory masking for students in Pre-K through grade 6, excluding special needs students.

SECOND – Seconded by none
Motion failed due to lack of a second.

2. Service Dogs – Matt Crapo and Bill Rice

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Mr. Crapo was excited to share that South Elementary school will be piloting a facility dog program. He referenced nearby districts with similar programs and the benefits of having a facility dog in school. He also announced that the high school will be getting a new security dog to replace Naddi.

Mr. Rice emphasized the importance of having a security dog at the high school, not only as a weapon and drug deterrent, but also as a companion and therapy dog. He said that the absence left by Naddi has been felt by everyone. He is looking forward to welcoming a new dog to the high school community.

Mr. Clark said that he is glad to hear about bringing the dog back [to the high school].

Mr. Begley inquired about how the dogs will be funded.

Mr. Crapo responded by saying that the cost for South's facility dog is about \$3,000 which will be paid for using security grants and possibly other internal building funds. The security dog at the high school is being donated by the trainer. Additionally, the training for the dog and its handler, Randy Johnson, is also being donated.

3. Board Policy – Roger Martin

A. DH – Bonded Employees and Officers

Mr. Martin provided a summary of the changes of this policy which will be voted on at the next Board meeting on September 2, 2021.

21-80 APPROVAL OF COURSES OF STUDY FOR HEALTH/PE, WORLD LANGUAGES, AND FINE ARTS/APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY EF/EFB

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

D. Other Items for Board Action

1. Recommend the approval of Courses of Study for Health/PE, World Languages, and Fine Arts
2. Recommend the approval of the following Board Policy:
 - A. EF/EFB - Food Services Management/Free and Reduced-Price Food Services

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Begley

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

21-81 APPROVAL OF MINUTES/APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JULY 2021/
APPROVAL OF 2021-2022 AMENDED APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION/DONATION/
DISPOSALS

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

TREASURER’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

- A. Recommend approval of the minutes of the following meetings:
 - July 15, 2021 – Regular Meeting
 - August 9, 2021 – Regular Work Session Meeting
- B. Recommend approval of the financial reports for the month of July 2021.
- C. Recommend approval of the 2021-2022 Amended Appropriations Resolution
- D. Recommend approval of the following donation:
 - 1. A donation of 100 backpacks and school supplies valued at \$1,200 from Butler County United Way to the Fairfield City School District.

Total donations for 2021: \$11,481.00

- E. Recommend approval of the disposal of the following fixed assets:

<u>Tag Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Location</u>
23312	iPad	Sacred Heart
23487	iPad	Sacred Heart
23521	iPad	Sacred Heart
23523	iPad	Sacred Heart
23526	iPad	Sacred Heart
23550	iPad	Sacred Heart
23555	iPad	Sacred Heart
23564	iPad	Sacred Heart
27136	iPad	Sacred Heart
27137	iPad	Sacred Heart
27138	iPad	Sacred Heart
27139	iPad	Sacred Heart
27140	iPad	Sacred Heart
27141	iPad	Sacred Heart
27142	iPad	Sacred Heart
27143	iPad	Sacred Heart
27144	iPad	Sacred Heart
27145	iPad	Sacred Heart
27146	iPad	Sacred Heart
27147	iPad	Sacred Heart
27148	iPad	Sacred Heart
27149	iPad	Sacred Heart

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27150	iPad	Sacred Heart
27151	iPad	Sacred Heart
27152	iPad	Sacred Heart
27153	iPad	Sacred Heart
27154	iPad	Sacred Heart
27155	iPad	Sacred Heart
27156	iPad	Sacred Heart
27157	iPad	Sacred Heart
27158	iPad	Sacred Heart
27159	iPad	Sacred Heart
27160	iPad	Sacred Heart
27161	iPad	Sacred Heart
27162	iPad	Sacred Heart
27163	iPad	Sacred Heart
27164	iPad	Sacred Heart
27165	iPad	Sacred Heart
27166	iPad	Sacred Heart
27167	iPad	Sacred Heart
27168	iPad	Sacred Heart
27169	iPad	Sacred Heart
27170	iPad	Sacred Heart
27171	iPad	Sacred Heart
27172	iPad	Sacred Heart
27173	iPad	Sacred Heart
27174	iPad	Sacred Heart
27175	iPad	Sacred Heart
27176	iPad	Sacred Heart
27177	iPad	Sacred Heart
27178	iPad	Sacred Heart
27179	iPad	Sacred Heart
27180	iPad	Sacred Heart
27181	iPad	Sacred Heart
27182	iPad	Sacred Heart
27183	iPad	Sacred Heart
27184	iPad	Sacred Heart
27185	iPad	Sacred Heart
27611	iPad	Sacred Heart
26741	Laptop	Sacred Heart
22466	Smart Board	Sacred Heart
22471	Smart Board	Sacred Heart
22472	Smart Board	Sacred Heart
22473	Smart Board	Sacred Heart
22474	Smart Board	Sacred Heart

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Gundrum

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Berding, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Gundrum & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislative Update – Balena Shorter – None

B. Butler Tech – Michael Berding

Mr. Berding shared a book that he received at a recent Butler Tech Board meeting. The name of the book is *Leadership for Deeper Learning* [by Jayson W. Richardson, Justin Bathon & Scott McLeod], and Butler Tech is mentioned 68 times in the book for its leadership and innovation. He also announced that the upcoming All Boards Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 28th from 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm at the Fairfield Township campus in the School of the Arts Event Center.

C. Planning Commission – Brian Begley – None

D. Student Achievement – Jerrilynn Gundrum – None

E. Parks and Recreation – Scott Clark

Mr. Clark was happy to announce that exciting things are coming to Harbin Park and to be on the lookout for details. He reminded everyone that the Concert in the Park series is being held twice per month on Thursday nights. Festivities begin at 6:00 pm with the concert starting at 7:00 pm. Finally, he shared that the Community Arts Center is opening back up for drama events in October. Tickets for those events can be purchased beginning in September.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 2, 2021 – Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, FHS Catherine D. Milligan Community Room

September 3, 2021 – In-service Day #2 – No Students

September 6, 2021 – Labor Day – No School

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Clark

He thanked the community for coming to the meeting tonight and for the input given. He also assured everyone that their emails are read, and encouraged continued hand washing.

Mrs. Gundrum

She also thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and for their emails. She expressed concern over some of the “bad behavior” on social media from both sides of the debate and urged parents to carefully consider the impact on their children.

Mrs. Shorter

She thanked all those that attended for expressing their views. She said that the Board will continue to do the best that they can.

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Mr. Begley

He appreciated Mrs. Shorter's courage in speaking her mind and expressing her opinion this evening. He said that although [the community] may not always agree with the Board, [the Board] has a duty to be transparent and will continue to make the best decisions possible with the information that is available.

Mr. Berding

He stated that this topic [mask mandate] has consumed his life the last couple of weeks. He hated to see the community at odds with one another, but appreciates the passion that was expressed. He echoed Mr. Begley's respect for Mrs. Shorter and for her opinion. He feels that it is the responsibility of the public health officials to serve public health orders. On a positive note, he's very happy and excited that school is back in session.

21-82 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Begley to recess to Executive Session at 9:42 pm to discuss the following:

The employment and discipline of public employees 121.22 (G) (1)
Economic Development Assistance R.C. 121.22 (G) (8)

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Gundrum

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

The Board resumed the meeting at 10:02 pm.

21-83 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Gundrum to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Begley

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 pm by the President, Mr. Berding.

President

Attest: _____
Treasurer